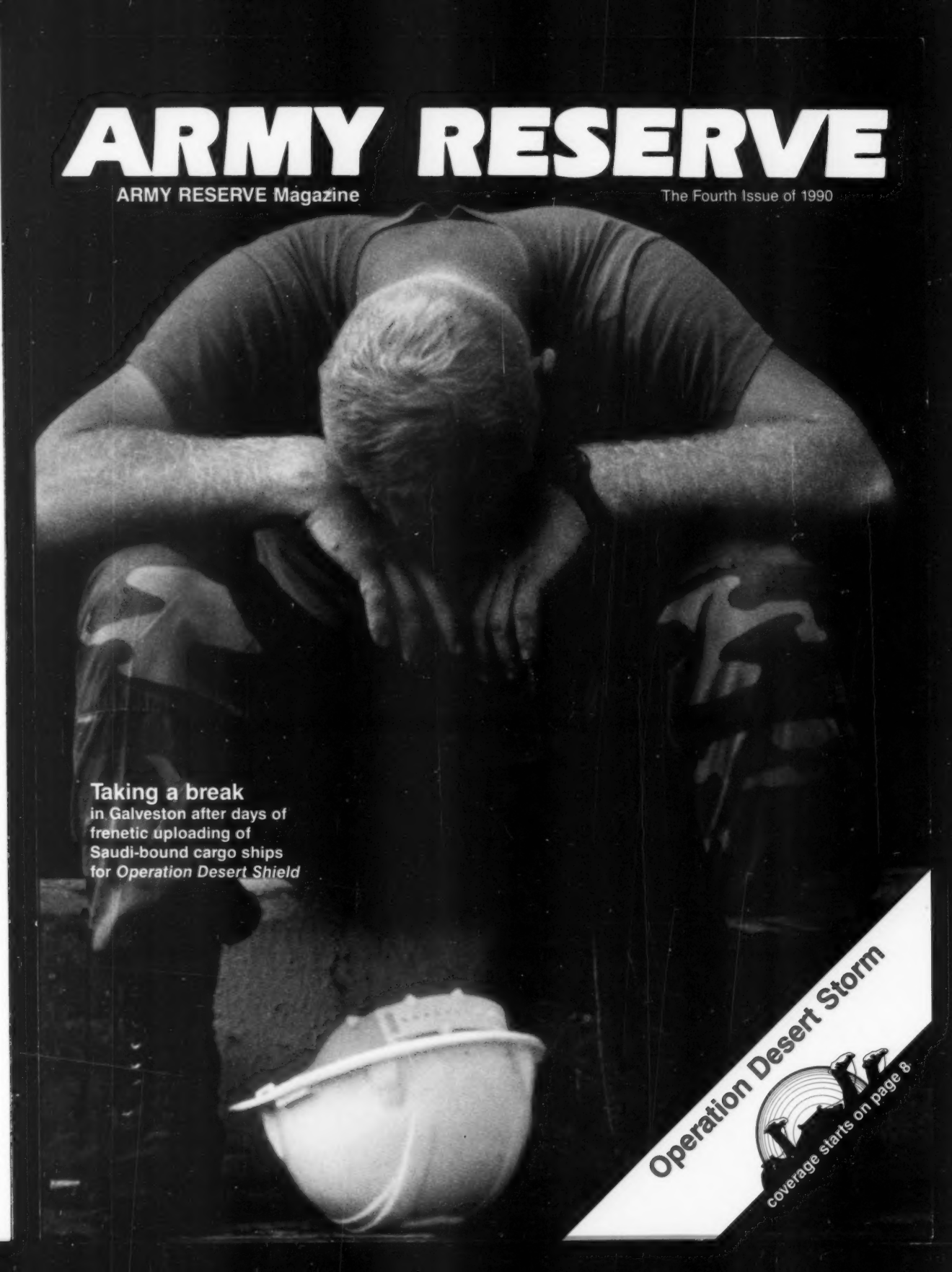
ARMY RESERVE

ARMY RESERVE Magazine

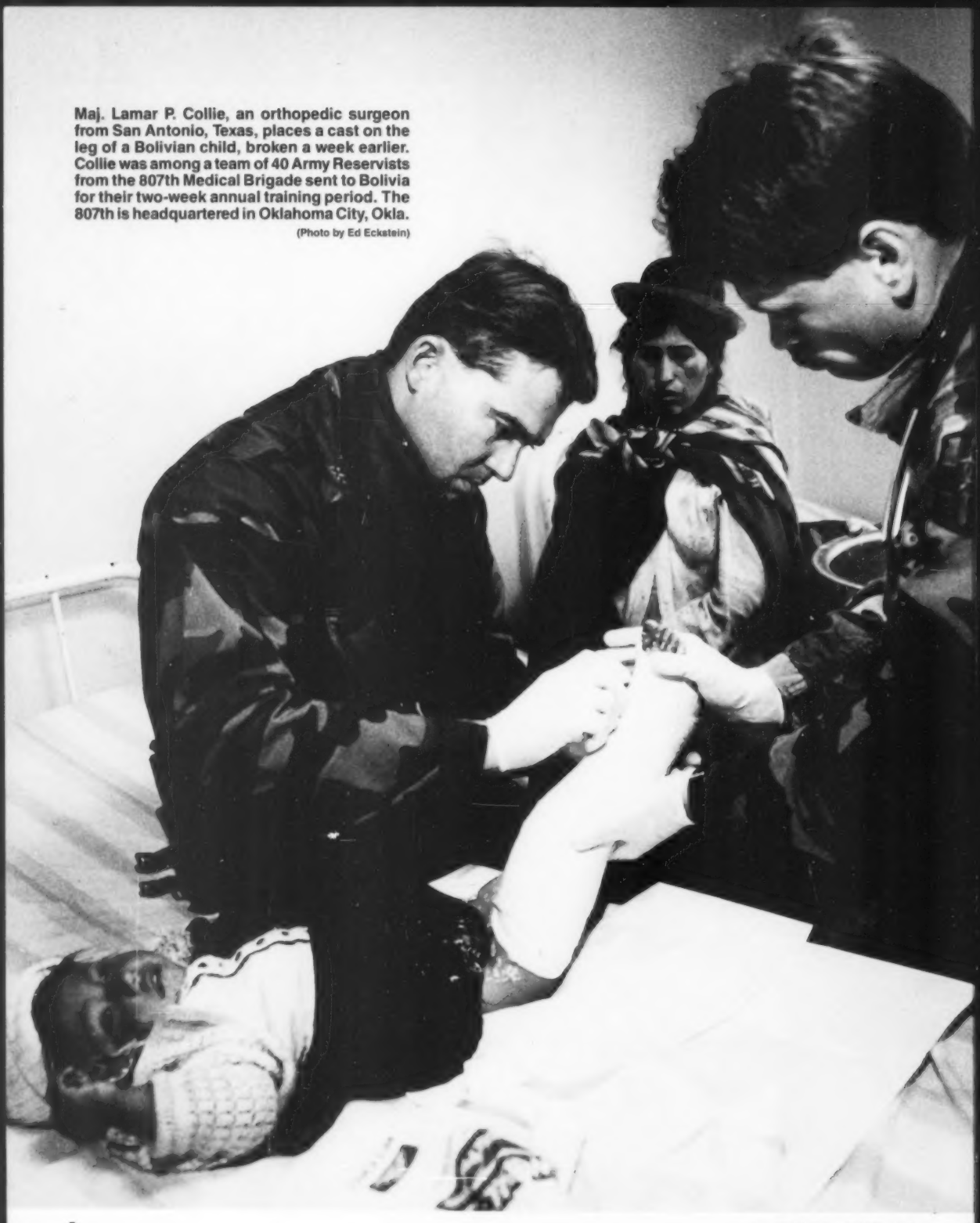
The Fourth Issue of 1990



Taking a break
in Galveston after days of frenetic uploading of Saudi-bound cargo ships for *Operation Desert Shield*

Operation Desert Storm

coverage starts on page 8



Maj. Lamar P. Collie, an orthopedic surgeon from San Antonio, Texas, places a cast on the leg of a Bolivian child, broken a week earlier. Collie was among a team of 40 Army Reservists from the 807th Medical Brigade sent to Bolivia for their two-week annual training period. The 807th is headquartered in Oklahoma City, Okla.

(Photo by Ed Eckstein)

ARMY RESERVE Magazine

Volume XXXVI
Number 4

Contents

"The Secretary of Defense shall require the complete and current dissemination to all Reserves and the Public of information of interest to the Reserve Components."
Section 278, Title 10, U.S. Code.

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Desert Shield/Desert Storm

A series of stories and information pieces aimed at providing Reservists and, particularly, their families with useful information on what has happened and where to turn for help.

Page 12

One-man dealership

A member of OCAR's Logistics Support Office sets up a one-man operation to help USAR medical units "get well" in time to support Operation Desert Shield.

Page 22

ARPERCEN backs up Desert Shield

The Army Reserve Personnel Center opens 'round the clock operation to coordinate the USAR's effort in Desert Shield/Desert Storm and to answer questions from concerned families of Reservists.

Page 24

Departments

Update . . . . . **Page 4**
People . . . . . **Page 10**
ARPERCEN . . . . . **Page 24**
Forum . . . . . **Page 28**

About our cover:

On this issue's front cover, a member of the 1181st Transportation Terminal Unit, Meridian, Miss., cools down a bit after his unit's non-stop loading of cargo ships at the Port of Galveston, Texas, bound for *Operation Desert Shield*. *Photo by PH2 Mark Keitenhoffen, Joint Combat Camera Team*. On the outside back cover, a member of the 100th Bn., 442nd Infantry, Ft. DeRussy, Hawaii, lets out a roar of satisfaction after attaining a company objective at Pohakuloa Training Area on the big island of Hawaii. ***Photo by Lt. Col. Jim Nielsen, USARPAC Public Affairs Office.***

Pre-holiday issue slips more than 60 days

Contract dispute delays magazine

Washington, D.C. — An administrative protest filed with the General Accounting Office last August by a disgruntled contractor has been settled.

Severely hampering the production schedule for *ARMY RESERVE Magazine*, the protest, which caused a virtual shutdown of the informal information flow to the reserve community, could not have erupted at a more critical time.

After a 90-day administrative law process, the GAO's finding asserted that the processes used by the Government Printing Office to select a printing contractor for the magazine had been proper and appropriate. In early January of this year, GPO finally was able to award the contract as originally scheduled on August 17, 1990.

The protestor's bid for the magazine had originally been "thrown out" by GPO as being "non-responsive" to the terms of the bid solicitation. The unsuccessful bidder disagreed with that decision and filed the protest the day before an award would have been made. All attempts to resolve the situation early enough to avoid the delay in getting critical information to the reserve families who could use it fell short of the mark. Even a personal letter in October from Maj. Gen. William F. Ward, Jr. to the Assistant Public Printer of the United States urging him to proceed in the face of the protest based upon the exigencies of **Operation Desert Shield** was unable to break the logjam.

The last published issue of *ARMY RESERVE Magazine* should have reached you and your families in late August and early September 1990. This fourth and final issue of 1990 was originally scheduled to be in your mailboxes in late November and early December, but the protest has made that impossible. In order to keep things straight for units or Reservists who save back issues of the magazine, reference librarians and future editors of the magazine, we are labelling this edition "The Fourth Issue of 1990" even though it probably will not reach everyone before February of 1991.

Our plan is to have "The First Issue of 1991" in your hands by late-March, pretty much back on our normal schedule.

We apologize for any inconvenience the delay may have caused to you or members of your families. We also appreciate your patience and understanding of the unbelievable, frustrating and bureaucratic "no-win situation" in which only the Army Reserve community has been the loser.

ZIP codes for desert do exist

Washington, D.C. — Many families around the nation, who tried to get mail to loved ones in the Persian Gulf in the early weeks of the **Operation Desert Shield** found that some postal clerks were refusing to accept packages headed to the Middle East.

It wasn't that the clerks did not want to take the mail, but there appeared to be no destination for it. The glitch should be straightened out by this time, but anyone who experiences the problem, should refer their local postal workers to the Postal Bulletin dated September 20, 1990.

Apparently, what was happening was that when the window clerk punched a ZIP code for a particular APO or FPO into his or her computer and the computer promptly reported that the code was inactive.

For the most part, the problem involved ZIP codes 09848-0006 and 09866-0006 which were set up to carry the "Any Service Member" mail. Those ZIP codes were and are correct and the computer is incorrect.

USPS officials note that their computers are updated quarterly and that the Desert Shield ZIPS had not been added yet. To alleviate the problem, USPS sent out written notice of the new codes to all of its post offices.

Pilot ANCOC course slated at Special Warfare Center in '91

Ft. Bragg, N.C. — The Army's John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School's NCO Academy has announced that it will conduct the pilot course for Phase 2 of the Special Forces NCO Advanced Course for reserve components in August of 1991.

Phase 2 closely parallels the SF-unique portions of the active component SF ANCOC, according to MSgt. Peter Van Borkulo, the academy's first sergeant.

Reserve soldiers will take skill level-4 training in MOSs 18B, 18C, and 18E. Soldiers whose primary MOS is 18F will take skill level-4 training in their secondary specialty.

Prior to attending the resident Phase 2, soldiers must have completed Phase 1, Army Common Leader Training ANCOC-RC. The course is given through all CONUSA NCO Academies, some National Guard military academies and USARF schools.

Selectees will also be required to complete a "read ahead" packet of instructional materials prior to arrival. A memo concerning the course has already been distributed to the RC SF community and a general information packet is also in the works.

Interested soldiers should contact the JFKSWCS non-resident training branch at AUTOVON 239-3822/4920 or commercially on (919) 432-3822/4920.

Possibly 100,000

Many Filipinos eligible for POW medal

St. Louis, Mo. — Between 80,000 and 100,000 Philippine nationals are now eligible to receive the United States Prisoner of War Medal.

The Secretary of Defense has approved award of the medal for eligible Philippine Commonwealth and recognized Philippine Guerrilla unit veterans held captive from December 7, 1941 and September 26, 1945. These veterans fought during the war under the command of General Douglas MacArthur.

Eligible Filipinos, or their next of kin, may apply for the medal by writing the U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center, ATTN: DARP-PAS-EAP-POW, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri, 63132-5200. A toll free number, 1 (800) 545-4399 has been lished to answer inquires about who can receive the award. The POW Medal was first issued in 1986. It features a defiant eagle symbolically surrounded by barbed wire and bayonet points. The award of the medal does not entitle the recipient to any additional benefits.

No more (202)

OCAR loses long-time area code

Washington, D.C. — As of October 1, 1990, the traditional (202) area code used to access virtually all Pentagon agencies' commercial telephone numbers in the Washington, D.C. area has been changed.

In short, what was once (202) is now (703).

Since the Pentagon and many of its activities are actually located in the northern Virginia calling area, the change actually does make sense.

If you have grown used to dialling (202) 694-XXXX, that has changed to (703) 614-XXXX (the last four digits remain unchanged). The former (202) 545-67XX has changed to (703) 545-67XX. Finally, the (202) 692-, 693-, 695-, 696-, 697- and 746-exchanges all have been shifted into the (703) area code (again, the last four digits have remained the same).

According to spokesmen for the Defense Telecommunications Service, the changes were necessary in order to free up additional telephone numbers to meet consumer demand in the fast-growing national capital region, especially in the area of dedicated lines for data or facsimile transmission.

New CHAMPUS Handbook available

Washington, D.C. — The new, completely updated CHAMPUS Handbook has been published. The 140-page handbook, last issued two years ago, is written in everyday language for service families and their sponsors.

It has the latest information about the basic CHAMPUS program's benefits and procedures and also discusses the uniformed services' Active Duty Dependents Dental Plan and CHAMPVA (Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs), and lists military medical facilities worldwide.

The cover of the 1990 handbook consists of red, white and blue horizontal stripes. The 1988 edition had a white cover with red stars on the front and back. The '88 handbook and all previous editions are out of date.

The revised handbook is being shipped by the printer to the military services' publication distribution centers, to the U.S. Public Health Service, various Coast Guard facilities, and to the headquarters offices of all CHAMPUS claims processors.

Individuals who want copies of the new handbook should contact their nearest Health Benefits Advisor.

An Army Reserve Glossary

The Army, and the Army Reserve, would be speechless without acronyms. Here's a glossary of terms frequently used in **ARMY RESERVE Magazine:**

ADSW — Active Duty for Special Work. Replaces Special Active Duty for Training (SADT) as a duty category. Its primary purpose is to accomplish one-time, short duration projects (up to 179 days) which are vital to the functioning of the Army Reserve. Any training received is an incidental aspect of the tour.

ADT — Active Duty for Training. This type of active duty is performed by any Reservist attending a school, counterpart training or other special training activities.

AGR — Active Guard/Reserve. Army Reservists on full-time active duty in support of Reserve units and programs. The National Guard has a program of the same name, which is administered separately.

ARCOM — Army Reserve Command. One of 21 geographic major Army Reserve commands throughout the U.S. (plus one in Germany). Most (but not all) Army Reserve units are subordinate to an ARCOM, which is commanded by a Reserve major general.

ARPERCEN — Army Reserve Personnel Center in St. Louis, Mo. The nationwide administrative and personnel management center for the Army Reserve. It is the headquarters for AGR, IMA and IRR Reservists.

AR — Army Regulation.

AT — Annual Training. Active duty performed annually (usually for two weeks) by Army Reserve units and by IMA Reservists. IRR members may also perform periods of AT.

CONUSA — CONtinental U.S. Army. The five numbered Army headquarters, which are subordinate to FORSCOM and command Army Reserve units in their respective regions. CONUSAs are commanded by Regular Army lieutenant generals.

DA — Department of the Army. The headquarters of the Army, located in the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

FORSCOM — Forces Command. The Army specified command headquartered at Ft. McPherson, Ga., which commands virtually all Army Reserve units in the U.S.

FY — Fiscal Year. This is the budgetary and training year for the Army. It starts on Oct. 1 and ends on Sept. 30.

GOCOM — General Officer Command. A unit of the Army Reserve with a general officer commanding, other than an ARCOM or a Division (Training). GOCOMs are functionally organized and are usually identified as a brigade or command.

IDT — Inactive Duty Training. Defined by AR 140-1. The most common example of IDT is weekend drill.

IMA — Individual Mobilization Augmentee. A Reservist who is assigned to an active Army unit or agency with which he or she would mobilize in case of emergency. IMAs normally serve two weeks of AT with their unit of assignment each year.

IRR — Individual Ready Reserve. A Reservist who does not belong to a Reserve unit or hold an IMA assignment. IRR soldiers do not normally drill but may serve tours of ADT. Upon mobilization, IRR soldiers receive orders from ARPERCEN.

MUSARC — Major U.S. Army Reserve Command. The highest level of USAR command. All ARCOMs, all Divisions (Training) and any GOCOM or any other command which reports **directly** to a CONUSA is a MUSARC.

MUTA — Multiple Unit Training Assembly. Commonly known as "weekend drill." The most common form is a MUTA-4, which includes four four-hour unit training assemblies.

OCAR — Office of the Chief, Army Reserve. The agency of the DA staff in Washington responsible for Army Reserve policy and budget matters.

ODCS — Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff — the principal DA staff elements. The last two or three letters tell which one — most commonly seen are ODCSLOG, logistics; ODCSOPS, operations, and ODCSPER, personnel.

PERSCOM — Total Army Personnel Command, formerly Total Army Personnel Agency (TAPA) and Military Personnel Center (MILPERCEN). Located in Alexandria, Va., this agency is the active component counterpart to ARPERCEN, and has some responsibilities affecting the Army Reserve.

RC — Reserve Component. Each branch of the U.S. military services has a regular component and one or more reserve components. The reserve components of the Army are the Army Reserve and the Army National Guard of the U.S.

RFD — Reserve Forces Duty. ROTC cadets/commissionees who are selected by the DA ROTC Accession/Branching Board for reserve forces duty.

SIDPERS — Standard Installation/Division Personnel System. The Army Reserve-wide computerized personnel data base.

Other acronyms are defined when they are used in a story.

Seeks new team members

U.S. CIOR Team readies for 1991 challenge in Fontainebleau, France

Calgary, Alberta — In desperation to not be swept past the small group of Canadian soldiers waiting at a check point, the three U.S. Reservists rolled their canoe over and plunged into the shallows of the icy mountain river.

While not a textbook solution on how to kill your forward speed in a rapid current, it was, nonetheless, effective. The soggy trio pulled their semi-submerged canoe to the water's edge to ensure they still had all their required equipment before continuing on their way.

Leaving the river, the Americans now had to shake off the numbing effects of the cold water and focus their energies on throwing practice hand grenades at a series of targets, before sprinting the final 200 meters to the finish line.

This was the last leg of a demanding eight-mile land navigation course located in the Canadian Rocky Mountains. When it was all over, U. S. Team 6 would finish second in the land navigation event and fifth overall among 43 NATO teams participating the 1990 Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers/ Interallied Confederation of Reserve Medical Officers (CIOR/CIOMR) Military Competitions in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Other U.S. teams would also do well during the competition, winning individual and team marksmanship awards.

The 1991 competition will be held in Fontainebleau, France, from June 30 through July 6.

Held in conjunction with the annual CIOR/CIOMR Congress, the military competitions test the military skills and physical readiness of Reserve commissioned officers from the NATO member nations. The three-day competition consists of marksmanship, using the host nation's rifle, pistol and sub-machine gun; land and water obstacle courses as well as land navigation.

From left to right, 2nd Lieut. Dan Wilson (ARNG), CWO 2 Brian Hart (USAR) and 2nd Lieut. Jim Tanner (USAR) display the awards they won during the 1990 CIOR Marksmanship event. (Photo by Maj. Jane Meyer)

The United States team is composed of reserve commissioned officers from all branches of the service with each applicant having proven capable of meeting or exceeding specific standards. Within successive two-minute periods, aspirants must complete 75 pushups and 75 situps. Next come at least 12 pull-ups in one minute, a five-mile run in 32 minutes and, finally, they will complete a 50-meter swim in 35 seconds.

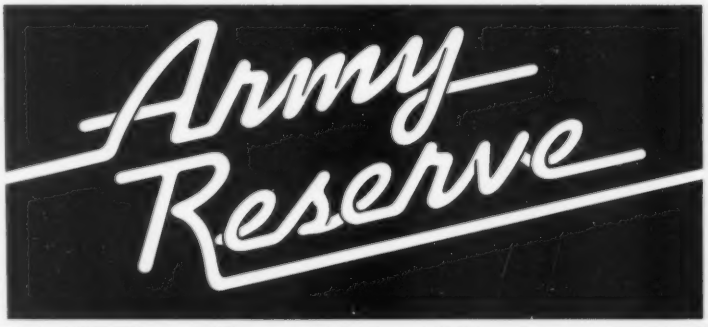
Reserve commissioned officers who can meet these and who would like more information concerning the 1991 United States Team may write to HQDA-OCAR, ATTN: DAAR-TR (LTC Nealon), 1815 N. Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, VA., 22209, or call DSN 226-3919 or commercial (703) 696-3919.

New Army Reserve, multi-purpose sticker available

Washington, D.C. — A brand new Army Reserve sticker has been released by OCAR's Public Affairs Office as part of its Retention Awareness Program.

The new item, a dazzling neon-green on a black background, measures slightly larger than eight-inches long and three-inches high and is printed on high-gloss, adhesive-backed, plastic stock. The item can be used as a bumper sticker, to brighten up a notebook or in hundreds of other applications.

Unit retention NCOs can order the item in packs of 50 each through the Retention Publicity Item system as RPI #468.



Congress and the Department of Defense fix long-running "gray area" shortfalls

St. Louis, Mo. — Until very recently, Army Reserve "gray area" retirees had no access to commissaries, exchanges and morale, welfare and recreation (MWR) facilities.

All that changed with the passage of the 1991 Defense Authorization Act, according to Lt. Col. Miriam Barbary, chief of the Retired Activities Division of the Army Reserve Personnel Center (ARPERCEN) in St. Louis.

"Gray area" retired reservists are among the several categories of reserve soldiers and their family members whose access to military facilities was changed by the new law.

" 'Gray area' retirees," Barbary explains, "are those members of the retired reserve below the age of 60 who are entitled to reserve retired pay once they turn 60."

Now "gray area" reserve retirees are entitled to unlimited use of exchange and MWR facilities, and 12 visits to military commissaries each year.

To make use of these benefits, the "gray area" retiree must have an Army Reserve ID Card (DD Form 2A) issued with the entry "RET" in the grade block. Their eligible family members must also possess a Reserve Family Member ID Card (DD Form 1173-1) or an Army Guard/Reserve Family Member ID Card (DA Form 5431.) All cards are available for issue through any Army facility that issues ID cards.

To apply for ID cards, "gray area" Army Reserve applicants will need to complete an Application for Uniformed Service ID Card — DEERS Enrollment (DD Form 1172) and present it to an ID card-issuing facility. In addition, copies of marriage certificates, divorce or annulment certificates, birth certificates or adoption decrees for dependent children, and the Notice of Eligibility for Retired Pay at Age 60 (the Reservists' much sought-after 20-year letter") will have to be presented at the time of application.

If no Army ID card issuing facility is nearby, former "gray area" Reservists may request cards by mail from ARPERCEN. They must include the documents mentioned above, **plus** a notarized statement with sufficient facts to establish identity, and a one by one and one quarter-inch passport-style, full face, color photo of each person requiring an ID card.

"Make sure that you're not wearing a hat or scarf in the photo," cautions Barbary.

Those applying by mail should send their requests — with complete documentation — to Commander, ARPERCEN, ATTN: DARP-PAS-EVC, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63132-5200.

While ID cards alone will gain the "gray area" retiree and family members access to exchange and MWR facilities, an additional document is required to visit the commissary: the U.S. Armed Forces Commissary Privilege Card (DD Form 2529).

One card will be issued to each "gray area" retiree annually, and is good for 12 visits to the commissary.

Barbary cautions that the card should **not** be laminated — commissary employees need to make entries on the cards' reverse side.

ARPERCEN will issue these cards to all "gray area" retired Army Reserve soldiers by March 1991, and annually thereafter.

"Any 'gray area' retiree who does not receive a card by March 1 should call us," added Barbary.

ARPERCEN's Retired Activities Division's toll-free number is (800) 325-8311.

The commissary privilege card is only required until the soldier turns age 60 and begins drawing retired pay. At that time, commissary use becomes unlimited.

New law broadens access to support facilities for all Reservists and their families

St. Louis, Mo. — Passage of the Defense Authorization act of 1991 extended and altered the rules by which Army Reserve soldiers gain access to the commissary, post and base exchanges, and Army morale, welfare and recreation (MWR) facilities.

Maj. Dorothy Clark, who monitors reserve benefit rules for ARPERCEN says that the new law permits up to 12 annual visits to the commissary for Army Reserve soldiers who perform annual training or active duty or training equivalent to annual training.

Clark notes that, additionally, "Army Reservists are also allowed unlimited commissary use while they are on active duty." She says the new law also extends **unlimited** use of military exchanges and MWR facilities to all Army Reserve soldiers and members of their families.

Reserve soldiers need a U.S. Armed Forces ID card (the DD Form 2A [red]). Their family members also need an ID card, either the DD Form 1173-1 (Reserve Component Family Member ID Card) or the DA Form 5431 (Army Guard/Reserve Family Member ID Card).

To use the commissary, Army Reservists and their family members also need a U.S. Armed Forces Commissary Privilege Card (DD Form 2529). Reserve soldiers earn the commissary privilege — and the commissary privilege card — by training either in an Annual Training (AT) or Active Duty for Training (ADT) status. The ADT may be either paid or unpaid duty.

Clark says the card entitles the soldier and family to one day of commissary use for each day of AT or ADT, up to a maximum of 12 visits per calendar year.

Reserve soldiers not assigned to units may apply for an ID card by mail from the same address noted in the accompanying 'gray area' article. Enclose copies of all the paperwork noted in that article, less the 20-year letter.

Unit members will get their commissary privilege cards from their units. ARPERCEN will issue them to IMA and IRR soldiers. IMA and IRR soldiers who trained in fiscal year 1990 will receive their cards by March 1, 1991. Thereafter, cards will go out from ARPERCEN each December, covering training for the previous fiscal year.

Unit members problems or questions about the cards should be directed to their unit personnel specialists. IMA and IRR soldiers need to call their personnel managers at ARPERCEN, and need to make sure the managers have their correct address information.

Lack of safety belt use cited

Soldier accidental deaths on rise

Washington, D.C. — "ARMY SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT," "SEATBELTS SAVE LIVES." Are these just slogans or are they more?

If they're more than mere platitudes, a lot of soldiers are not taking the advise they offer to heart because, although Army vehicular accidents have declined, soldier injuries and fatalities continue to rise.

Why? Soldiers are not wearing their safety belts! Privately owned vehicle accidents continue to produce the greatest number of military fatalities (160 out of 253 total Army fatalities). Despite the fact that the number of POV accidents has declined, the number of associated fatalities has increased nearly 20 percent over last year.

Similarly, the number of Army motor vehicle accidents has declined, while the number of fatalities associated with these accidents continues to rise.

In accidents involving HMMWV's, Bradleys, and M113 series vehicles over the past five years, more than 200 soldiers not wearing available safety belts were injured or killed. Army accident investigators have found Army motor and combat vehicle safety belts taped up or stowed out of the way. To compound this problem, failure to conduct crew drills, especially rollover drills, contributes to death and serious injury.

According to Army safety experts, there seems to be an attitude among some soldiers that safety belts are not needed or are too much trouble. Yet the Army is still losing soldiers every year because safety belts are not being used.

Losses to motor vehicle accidents is one of the most important and easiest to solve readiness problems. All commanders have been urged to integrate crew drills into unit training and to insure those crews buckle up.

Army tracks officers who don't fulfill scholarship terms

St. Louis, Mo — If you are an Army Reserve officer who went to college on a Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC) Scholarship and you're not participating satisfactorily in your USAR program, beware!

Officials of the Army Reserve Personnel Center (ARPERCEN) have you on their "most wanted list." When they find you, not only may you be discharged, but you could face collection of all the scholarship money you've been paid.

If the officer is unable to come to an agreement with the Army about terms of the payback, Uncle Sam can get very nasty indeed. The Army can — and will — employ private collection agencies, wage garnishment, and the Internal Revenue Service to see that the money returns to the treasury.

What would cause a Reserve officer to face immediate discharge and the collection of money? Basically, for not participating — or for not participating satisfactorily — in required training.

Each soldier incurs a statutory military service obligation of eight years. Within that statutory requirement, each scholarship recipient has an additional contractual requirement to complete a specific combination of years of active and reserve unit duty. Failure to do so constitutes unsatisfactory participation, which — for former ROTC scholarship winners — can result both in discharge and Army action to get its money back.

According to ARPERCEN officials, a variety of situations can produce an "unsat" participant. Failure of an officer to graduate from a branch Officer Basic Course is one source of difficulty. Refusal to accept assignment to a Reserve Troop Program Unit (TPU) or to a position in the Individual Mobilization Augmentation (IMA) program are others.

Failure to stay in shape is another situation that can put an officer in jeopardy. An officer who fails the APFT at Officer Basic Course will not graduate. One who fails later may not be allowed to train. And, if the officer exceeds height/weight standards, he or she is ineligible to take part in required training.

Poor performance which results in an officer being relieved from assignment to a TPU or IMA assignment is another possible pitfall. Even administrative details can cause trouble. Failure to respond to mail from ARPERCEN, or failure to keep ARPERCEN informed of a proper home address will also land an officer in hot water.

What you'll make in 1991...

Pay Grade	-2	+2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	26
						YEARS OF SERVICE								
						COMMISSIONED OFFICERS								
O-8	164.80	169.74	173.76	173.76	173.76	183.71	186.71	195.54	195.54	203.68	212.52	220.67	226.11	226.11
O-7	136.93	146.24	146.24	146.24	152.80	152.80	161.66	161.66	169.74	186.71	186.56	199.56	199.56	199.56
O-6	101.50	111.51	118.82	118.82	118.82	118.82	118.82	118.82	122.85	142.27	149.54	152.80	161.66	175.33
O-5	81.17	95.31	101.90	101.90	101.90	101.90	104.98	110.63	118.05	126.89	134.16	138.22	143.05	143.05
O-4	68.42	83.32	88.88	88.88	90.53	94.52	100.97	106.64	111.51	116.40	118.62	119.62	119.62	119.62
O-3	63.58	71.09	76.00	84.26	88.11	91.27	96.21	100.97	103.45	103.45	103.45	103.45	103.45	103.45
O-2	55.44	60.55	72.75	75.19	76.76	76.76	76.76	76.76	76.76	76.76	76.76	76.76	76.76	76.76
O-1	48.14	50.11	60.55	60.55	60.55	60.55	60.55	60.55	60.55	60.55	60.55	60.55	60.55	60.55
						OFFICERS WITH MORE THAN 4 YRS ACTIVE DUTY AS ENLISTED OR WARRANT OFFICER								
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	84.99	88.11	91.27	96.21	100.97	104.98	104.98	104.98	104.98	104.98	104.98
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.19	76.76	79.19	83.32	86.51	88.88	88.88	88.88	88.88	88.88	88.88
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.55	64.69	67.07	69.50	71.92	75.19	75.19	75.19	75.19	75.19	75.19
						WARRANT OFFICERS								
W-4	64.78	69.50	69.50	71.09	74.32	77.60	80.85	86.51	90.53	93.70	96.21	99.32	102.64	110.63
W-3	58.98	63.87	63.87	64.69	65.44	70.23	74.32	76.76	79.19	81.55	84.09	87.36	90.53	93.70
W-2	51.58	55.79	55.79	57.42	60.55	63.87	66.29	68.72	71.09	73.59	76.00	78.40	81.55	81.55
W-1	42.96	49.26	49.26	53.37	55.79	58.19	60.55	63.05	65.44	67.88	70.23	72.75	72.75	72.75
						ENLISTED MEMBERS								
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.36	77.05	78.80	80.80	82.41	84.01	88.42	97.02
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63.20	65.00	66.72	68.45	70.26	71.87	73.64	77.96	86.64
E-7	44.12	47.63	49.40	51.12	52.86	54.55	56.30	58.05	60.68	62.40	64.14	64.97	69.33	77.96
E-6	37.97	41.37	43.10	44.93	46.61	48.29	50.07	52.65	54.30	56.06	56.91	56.91	56.91	56.91
E-5	33.31	36.26	38.02	39.67	42.28	44.00	45.75	47.43	48.29	48.29	48.29	48.29	48.29	48.29
E-4	31.07	32.81	34.74	37.43	38.91	38.91	38.91	38.91	38.91	38.91	38.91	38.91	38.91	38.91
E-3	29.27	30.88	32.11	33.38	33.38	33.38	33.38	33.38	33.38	33.38	33.38	33.38	33.38	33.38
E-2	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17	28.17
E-1	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13	25.13

E-1 WITH LESS THAN 4 MONTHS–23.24

To determine your monthly pay, find the amount shown at the coordinate of your grade and years of service. Multiply that figure by 4 to determine your pay for a "normal" MUTA-4 weekend drill.

USAR fights hard for its share of the funding into the '90s

by Dr. Don Deppe

Washington, D.C. — The Army Reserve is unique.

It provides the nation special capabilities at the lowest possible cost — capabilities that are available almost exclusively in the Army Reserve, are essential to the national defense strategy, act as a force multiplier and provide a national insurance policy that the country wants now and will need even more in the future.

For these important reasons, the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve went to battle to win adequate resources to improve the fiscal health and well being of the Army Reserve. Through its recently established Division of Program Analysis and Evaluation, OCAR developed and told the Army Reserve resource story to everyone who would listen.

Those listeners included Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Carl Vuono; Lt. Gen. William Reno, then head of the Army's Program Analysis and Evaluation Directorate; members of the Program and Budget Committee and key figures in the Department of Defense. The goal of telling the story was to define and build the Army Reserve's total program for fiscal years 1992 through 1997 to ensure the programming of money needed to support the program for the six-year period.

GROWTH OF RESERVE COMPONENTS
PAID DRILL STRENGTH: FY78-89

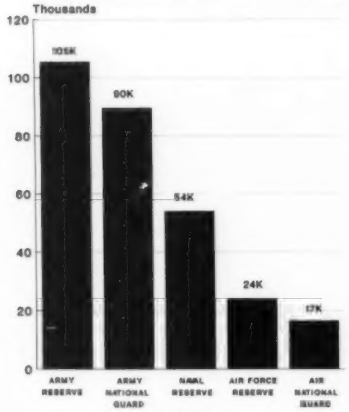


Fig. 1

The focal point of the story was that a valuable and indispensable Army resource, the USAR, is suffering from a decades-long failure to compete effectively in the on-going rush for resources. Consequently, the USAR failed to gain a level of support commensurate with its uniqueness and its importance. By comparing the various reserve organizations in the Department of Defense, we drove home the story graphically and convinced sympathetic listeners help was needed.

Key comparisons included the fact that in terms of growth in personnel strength, the USAR expanded faster from 1978 to 1989 than any other reserve organization, as shown in figure 1.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
APPROPRIATIONS

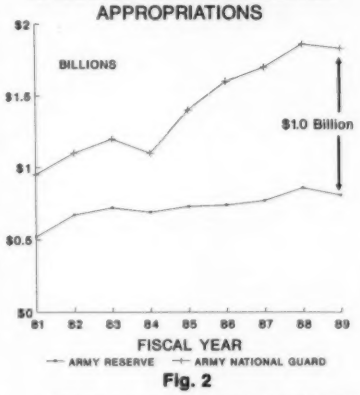


Fig. 2

Despite enormous growth in paid drill strength, Operations and Maintenance monies grew only $142 million from 1978 to 1989 while the Naval and Air Force Reserves grew over $400 million each and the ARNG and the Air National Guard grew by $518 and $569 million. The O&M resourcing gap between the ARNG and the USAR was $1 billion in 1989, clearly depicted in figure 2.

In Equipment on Hand, the USAR ranks last once again. We have 59-percent of our required EOH while others range from 79-percent to 97-percent fill shown in figure 3.

In the area of facilities, the picture is equally dismal. The Army Reserve has never received the level of facility resourcing required to accommodate its growth. When compared with other reserve components, the Army Reserve ranks dead last (see figure 4) in the percentage of required facilities on hand.

Complicating the challenge to tell the Army Reserve story in a compelling way is the fact that the USAR is largely composed of combat service support (CSS) units; the "tail" of the "tooth to tail" analogy referring

EQUIPMENT ON HAND
PERCENT OF REQUIREMENT ON HAND

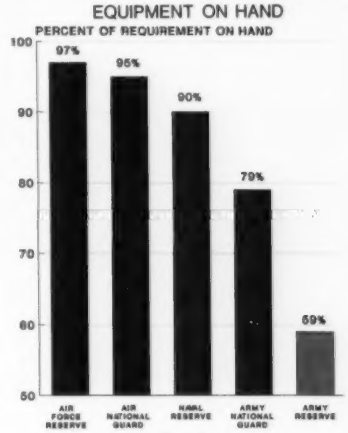


Fig. 3

to a ratio of "fighters" to "supporters" required to successfully engage and defeat an enemy. In fact, the USAR is 48-percent CSS

FACILITIES ON HAND
PERCENT OF REQUIREMENTS ON HAND

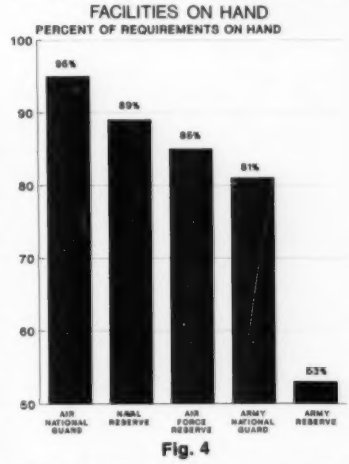


Fig. 4

spaces. In the ARNG the proportion is 17-percent and for the active component the "tail" is 16-percent. While these differences

see 'Fights' on page 27

Reservist keeps 'em flying in CENTAM

by Sgt. Vonny Rohloff

Soto Cano AB, Honduras — Travel in Central America is nothing new to Staff Sgt. Lloyd Burke, but two weeks at Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras, with the U.S. Army Reserve is a new experience.

He and his unit, Company L, 158th Aviation Regiment, 90th Army Reserve Command (ARCOM), based in Grand Prairie, Texas, are becoming more proficient in their military skills while also helping the Honduran people.

Burke's field is avionics. His job is to repair electrical problems on the helicopters in his unit and keep the radios working. "I feel I have a role that is needed here," said SSgt. Burke.

His unit's mission supports the big two-lane road building project going on near Las Delicias, a remote mountain base camp in North Central Honduras. There, military engineer units are building a farm to market road for the local people. Company L's helicopters transport supplies and personnel and Burke is needed to keep the helicopters in good working order. "By trying to do the best I can to fix any radio problems saves the pilot a lot of aggravation," Burke said. But he has problems to overcome in his work too. Soto Cano is hot, windy and very dusty. There is no hanger to shelter the aircraft while he works on them, so he has to find ways to keep the equipment shaded when working on it. "Some of the equipment is very sensitive," said Burke.

Burke lives in Conroe, Texas, where he works as an avionics repairman for a governmental agency. He formerly taught school in Guatemala and Columbia. He also worked in oil fields in Venezuela. Now he is helping the Honduran people via the United States Army Reserve.

SSgt. Lloyd Burke responds "Hear you loud and clear," as he checks out the avionics aboard a helicopter during his unit's recent two-week stay on Soto Cano Air Base, Honduras. (Photo by Sgt. Vonny Rohloff)

In memoriam

Jim Kroesen
1946–1990

Springfield, Va. — A good soldier and zealous supporter of the Army Reserve is dead.

Lt. Col. (Ret.) James Miller Kroesen, 44, died at his home on October 9 after an extended and extraordinary battle with inoperable cancer. Kroesen had been editor of **ARMY RESERVE Magazine** from 1986 until he was medically retired in September, 1989.

"I like this job because it allows me to stay in touch with my roots," he was fond of saying when asked if he didn't mind the pressures of being a perennial one-man show with the magazine.

"I like the ambiance created by the din of the presses and the sharp, crisp smell of the printer's ink . . . I guess I'm just an old printer at heart."

He was, indeed, an "old printer" having started out as a linotype operator and printer with several small daily newspapers in his native Iowa. Later, he reported the news for the **Sioux City Journal** in 1968 before coming on active duty in various public affairs positions with the 7th U.S. Army in Heidelberg and Worms, Germany. By 1972 he had served a tour as a transportation officer with II Field Force in Qui Nhon, Vietnam.

After leaving active duty, Jim was a teaching fellow with the journalism department at the University of Nevada (Reno), where he also received his Masters Degree in Journalism. Later, he instructed within the journalism department at Oregon State University.

Along the way he published and edited **The Sanger Herald** in Sanger, Calif., **The Siuslaw News** in Florence, Ore., and was owner of **The Benton Bulletin** in Philomath, Ore. Just before returning to active duty as an AGR officer in 1985, he had been the public affairs consultant to the Oregon Trucking Association after a stint as the general manager and editor of **Oregon Coast Magazine**, that state's flagship travel and tour magazine.

Perhaps his best-known effort within the Army Reserve Public Affairs community was his handling of the first of the IRR musters in 1985. His efforts were rewarded by the Public Relations Society of America with its most prestigious "Silver Anvil Award" in recognition of his detailed public relations planning and execution while serving as the Public Affairs Officer for ARPERCEN in St. Louis, Mo. His military awards include the Vietnam Service and Campaign Medals, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Legion of Merit.

He is survived by his wife, Lynn; his mother and father, Dorothy and Merle of Scranton, Iowa, and a brother, John of Albuquerque, N.M.

Anyone who would like to make a contribution to the National Institutes of Health Patient Emergency Fund is encouraged to designate the gift as "In honor of Jim Kroesen for purchase of books and materials for the patient library." Jim developed an appreciation for the library during his many stays at NIH. The address is: NIH Patient Emergency Fund, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bldg. 10, Room 1C144, Bethesda, Md. 20892.

If "old printers" do, as we suspect, have a special space reserved for them in heaven, we all hope Jim will find the ambiance there to his liking. — *BRD*

Sgt. Maj. Smith returns to duty

Countering adversity with achievement

by Lt. Col. Art House

Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind. — Sgt. Maj. Oscar C. Smith of Indianapolis is a member of the largest but least visible element of the Army Reserve. Smith, who retired from the Active Army in 1969, has been since then a member of the Retired Reserve. There are more than 500,000 Retired Reserve members; the group includes all retirees of the Active Army, as well as those of the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve.

To Smith and to the Army, the Retired Reserve is much more than a list of pensioners. It is a vast mobilization pool of pre-trained soldiers, and is managed as such by the Army Reserve Personnel Center (ARPERCEN) in St. Louis.

All retirees are potentially liable for recall to active duty in a mobilization; more than 130,000 of them carry "hip pocket" preassignment orders for active duty which becomes effective on mobilization.

Smith more than personifies the experience of the soldiers of the Retired Reserve, experience that the Army knows it will need to tap in any future mobilization.

Smith's Army career is still underway. "It's like the church," Smith says, "once in, never out."

Retired Sgt. Maj. Oscar Smith, who served on active duty from 1947 to 1969, completes personnel paperwork with assistance from Spec. Inez Henry at Ft. Benjamin Harrison during exercise Certain Sage. (Photo by Lt. Col. Art House)

One of 300 recalled

He discussed his continuing career, recently, at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind., where he was serving several days of voluntary active duty. Smith is one of more than 300 retired soldiers recalled to active duty to participate in *Certain Sage*, an annual Department of the Army exercise that tests mobilization procedures for retired soldiers. His is a tale of great achievement overcoming great adversity.

Smith enlisted in 1947, seeking "a self-sufficiency and independence that I could never find in my home town." A native of the deep south, Smith found intolerable the oppressive racial environment at home.

He is quick to illustrate the point: "If you weren't properly deferential, some white people would say, 'I guess you'll be heading north to Chicago soon.' " Smith didn't head for Chicago; he headed for the recruiting station.

"I'd seen too much failure among my people, Smith recalled, "and I did not intend to live my life on a treadmill of inhuman relations."

But the Army of the late 1940s was a largely segregated force. It took well into the 1950s for President Truman's executive order desegregating the armed forces to be put fully into place.

Smith recalls that the first place he met with discrimination was the recruiting station: "They suggested that they didn't really expect me to pass the test. When I did, I had to wait for three months to go in . . . there were quotas on blacks then and I had to wait until a sufficient number of white men were recruited to bring the ratios into line."

'Soldiering' won out

The discrimination did not end at the recruiters' door. Smith served in combat in Korea as a member of an all-black unit, the 24th Infantry. When the unit was disbanded — as part of the Army's compliance with the Presidential desegregation order — Smith found himself in yet another all-black unit. This outfit, a provisional unit, had the mission of handling security for a tungsten mine.

Smith's perseverance in the face of discrimination carried him through the tough times. "The bigots in the Army didn't own the Army," he states, and it was during a later assignment to a medical battalion in Europe that Smith began to see a change in the way he was treated.

"Things went well there, the people were professionals and they had a job to do. They had no time for pettiness," he recalls. He made it through the years of adversity by applying a simple formula: "I soldiered," he states proudly, recalling his frequent honors as soldier and NCO of the month, color guardsman, and — later — as adjutant of the Ft. Benjamin Harrison NCO parade.

Ft. Harrison holds a special place in his memory. There, at the old Adjutant General School, Smith taught administrative subjects, and helped develop the school's first programmed instruction.

"Some fine people provided me the opportunity to teach." He ended up a distinguished instructor. Throughout his career, he was a mentor for younger soldiers. "They sought me out for advice. And, as a chapel-goer I was trusted. Some even gave me their money to hold for them."

Though retired, his mentoring continues today. Smith has a son-in-law who serves on active duty as a data processing NCO. Smith advises him — as he advised others along the way — to stay in the Army. "He probably will," the sergeant major reckons. Education has always been a motivator for Smith, and he advises younger soldiers to get all that they can. His mother's fifteenth child, Smith was the first in the family to complete high school.

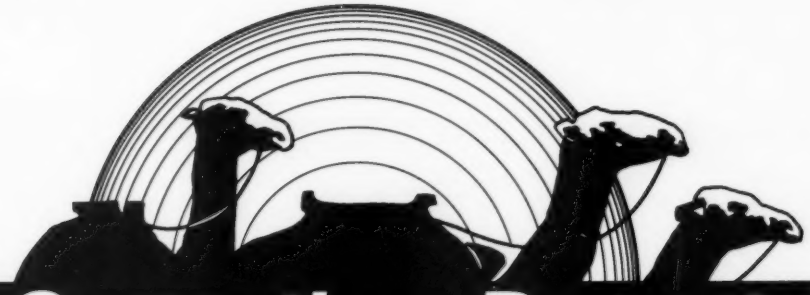
see 'Soldier' on page 27

So, you're on orders to support

by Lt. Col. Ron Becker

Washington, D.C. — Although it is not possible to provide answers to all the questions which exist as a result of the Army Reserve's involvement in **Operation Desert Shield/ Desert Storm** here, we can provide some basic information and offer directions about where to go to obtain answers to additional questions which are sure to arise.

The first place that Reservists or their dependents should go if you need family assistance is to your unit of assignment. Many units have Family Support Coordinators who are trained to help families. Most major U. S. Army Reserve Centers have Family Support Coordinators and Family Support Groups that are willing and able to provide help. The Continental U. S. Armies (First, Second, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Armies) are coor-



Operation Desert Storm

dinating family assistance through Family Support Task Forces that will visit deploying units and provide help to families as needed.

In addition, The National Guard is opening Family Assistance Centers as they are needed. As each center is opened, local media will be announcing their location and telephone numbers. Every community has a Red Cross office or representative who can help families during any emergency and they will be able to put you in contact with appropriate agencies.

Active component installations have Army Community Service centers that can provide financial counseling, legal assistance, and assist in obtaining loans from Army Emergency Relief.

If your unit does not have an established Family Support Group, then you may want to help in getting one started. For information on how to do this, contact the Family Support Office at the Continental U. S. Army which has geographic responsibility for your home state.

We cannot provide addresses and phone numbers for all of the centers, but most will be listed in the "Blue Pages" of the phone book under" U.S. Government — Department of the Army." If not listed directly, call the number listed for the post's information operator.

As reserve soldiers and their families get ready for deployment most have questions about what will happen to them and where to go for help. Fortunately, there are people available all hours of the day to answer any question that may come up. We list, here, just a few of the help lines available. As the operation continues, there will certainly be more "hot lines" opening up.

New numbers will be advertised in local media sources to let families know where to turn for assistance. Meanwhile, if you have a question, give these numbers a try.

Army Family Information Line **1 (800) 833-6622**

HOURS OF OPERATION: MON-FRI 7:30 AM TO 5 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME. CALL FROM ALL STATES INCLUDING ALASKA AND HAWAII, PUERTO RICO AND VIRGIN ISLANDS. FROM VIRGINIA CALL COLLECT TO COMMERCIAL NUMBER OR USE AUTOVON, IF AVAILABLE.

PURPOSE: Serves the Total Army (Active, National Guard, Army Reserve, retirees, and civilians) by providing information about Army family programs, services and benefits. Fills orders for free materials such as how-to on family support groups. Will also take orders for free publications such as the **ARMY FAMILIES** newsletter and a spouse news sheet called **FLO NOTES**. Permanent operation established in 1984.

OPERATED BY: ODCSPER (DAPE-ZXF) Family Liaison Office
Pentagon, Room #653
Washington, DC 20310-0300

Commercial Phone: (703) 695-7714
Military DSN: 225-7714

Army Hotline for Desert Shield **1 (800) 542-9254**

HOURS OF OPERATION: 24 HOURS. CALL FROM ALL STATES EXCEPT VIRGINIA. CAN CALL FROM ALASKA, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO, VIRGIN ISLANDS AND GUAM.

PURPOSE: Established to assist the family members of soldiers who deployed to Saudi Arabia and family members returning from the Middle East. In service since August 14, 1990 and will remain open throughout **Operation Desert Storm**.

OPERATED BY: ODCSPER (DAPE-CFSC-FS)
Community and Family Support Center
2461 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22331

Commercial Phone: (703) 325-8310
Military DSN: 221-8310

Retirement Information **1 (800) 336-4909**

HOURS OF OPERATION: MON-FRI 10 AM TO NOON AND 1 PM TO 3 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME. CALL FROM ALL STATES EXCEPT VIRGINIA

PURPOSE: Provide information for soldiers who have retired or are planning to retire. This is a permanent information line.

OPERATED BY: ODCSPER (DAPE-CFSC-FS)
Community and Family Support Center
2461 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22331

Commercial Phone: (703) 325-9158
Military DSN: 221-9158

Survivor Benefit Plan **1 (800) 428-2290**

HOURS OF OPERATION: MON-FRI 7:30 AM TO 4 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME. CALL FROM ALL STATES EXCEPT VIRGINIA. USE COMMERCIAL OR AUTOVON FROM WITHIN VIRGINIA.

PURPOSE: When eligible to retire from either the active or reserve component, soldiers may elect to participate in a SBP to provide benefits to family members or others who have an insurable interest in the retiree (includes some former spouses of retirees).

OPERATED BY: ODCSPER (DAPC-CFSC-FS)
Community and Family Support Center
2461 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22331

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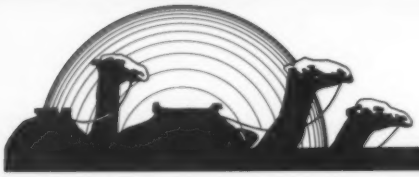


Toll-free numbers available to family members

continued from previous page

Commercial Phone: (703) 325-9158
Military DSN: 221-9158

Reserve Soldier's Civilian Job Rights **1 (800) 336-4590**
HOURS OF OPERATION: 24 HOURS. AT CONCLUSION OF OPERATION DESERT SHIELD HOURS WILL BE 7:30 AM TO 4:30 PM MON-FRI. CALL FROM ALL STATES EXCEPT VIRGINIA. IN VIRGINIA CALL COLLECT OR USE AUTOVON.

PURPOSE: To obtain information about reserve soldier's civilian job rights, rules regarding training, time off, scheduling, vacation pay, employer health benefits and other civilian employment concerns as they pertain to reserve participation.

OPERATED BY: National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve
1555 Wilson Blvd., Suite 200
Arlington, Va. 22209-2400

Commercial Phone: (703) 696-1391
Military DSN: 226-1391

Career Counselors **1 (800) 874-8451**
HOURS OF OPERATION: 24 HOURS. CALL FROM ALL STATES.

PURPOSE: To direct reserve soldiers and their family members to the soldier's career counselor. Activated on August 24, 1990 and will remain in service throughout **Operation Desert Storm**.

OPERATED BY: U. S. Army Reserve Personnel Center (ARPERCEN)
9700 Page Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63122

Commercial Phone: (314) 538-3005 (Collect calls accepted)
Military DSN: 874-3005

Army Student Travel **1 (800) 582-5552**
HOURS OF OPERATION: 7:30 AM TO 4:30 PM EASTERN STANDARD TIME. RECORDING AFTER DUTY HOURS. CALL FROM ALL STATES INCLUDING ALASKA, HAWAII, PUERTO RICO, VIRGIN ISLANDS. CALL COLLECT FROM VIRGINIA AND OVERSEAS TO COMMERCIAL LINE BELOW.

PURPOSE: Answers questions about Army student travel entitlements. Under some circumstances, students living away from their Army family may have one trip home paid for by the Army.

OPERATED BY: ODCSPER
Total Army Personnel Command (TAPC)
200 Stoval Street
Alexandria, VA 22332

Commercial Phone: (703) 325-0579
Military DSN: 221-9579

DEERS Medical Care **1 (800) 538-9552**
HOURS OF OPERATION: MON-FRI 6:30 AM-3:30 PM PACIFIC STANDARD TIME. CALL FROM ALL STATES EXCEPT CALIFORNIA, HAWAII, ALASKA, PUERTO RICO AND VIRGIN ISLANDS. OVERSEAS CALLS NEED TO GET PHONE NUMBER FROM DEERS HANDBOOK

CALL FROM CALIFORNIA ONLY **1 (800) 334-4162**
HOURS OF OPERATION: MON-FRI 6:00 AM-3:30 PM PACIFIC STANDARD TIME.

CALL FROM HAWAII AND ALASKA ONLY **1 (800) 527-5602**
HOURS OF OPERATION: MON-FRI 6:00 AM-3:30 PM PACIFIC STANDARD TIME.

PURPOSE: To confirm enrollment and eligibility for medical care through the Defense Enrollment and Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Must be enrolled in DEERS to obtain health care through Uniformed Services Health Facilities, Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) or the Primary Care for the Uniformed Services (PRIMUS) clinics.

OPERATED BY: DEERS Office
2100 Garden Road
Monterey, CA 93940

Internal Revenue Service **1 (800) 829-1040**
HOURS OF OPERATION: NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS. CALL FROM ALL STATES.

PURPOSE: Answers to questions regarding federal taxes, dependents, moving expenses, and other tax information concerning military personnel. All federal tax forms may be ordered from 1 (800) 829-3676.

OPERATED BY: Internal Revenue Service

Social Security **1 (800) 234-5772**
HOURS OF OPERATION: 7:30 AM-4 PM MON-FRI EASTERN STANDARD TIME. CALL FROM ALL STATES

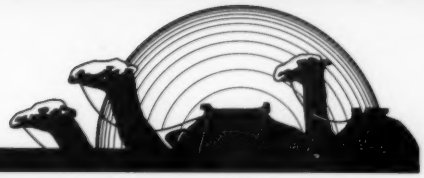
PURPOSE: To obtain an estimate of your social security entitlements (best to use when you are close to retirement age or if disabled at anytime).

OPERATED BY: U. S. Social Security Commission

Veterans' Insurance **1 (800) 669-8477**
HOURS OF OPERATION 9 AM TO 5:30 PM MON-FRI EASTERN STANDARD TIME. OVERNIGHT MESSAGE SERVICE AFTER HOURS AND ON WEEKENDS. SPECIALISTS WILL RETURN THOSE CALLS WITHIN TWO WORKING DAYS.

PURPOSE: Veterans and beneficiaries can obtain information about their government insurance including address or policy changes, dividend information and general insurance information.

OPERATED BY: The Department of Veterans' Affairs (formerly the Veterans' Administration).



Alerted Reservists' families are entitled to full spectrum of benefits

Washington, D.C. — Reserve family members are entitled to basically the same benefits that active component families enjoy when the soldier has been ordered to active duty for more than 30 days.

This series of questions and answers is designed to answer the most commonly asked questions. If you have additional questions, call one of the toll-free phone numbers listed elsewhere in this issue.

Q. For what benefits are family members of Reservists, ordered to active duty for more than 30 days, eligible?
A. *Eligible family members are entitled to medical, commissary, exchange, and other morale, welfare and recreation activities and facilities on the same basis as family members of active component soldiers.*

Q. What kind of medical care are they eligible for?
A. *Eligible family members can obtain medical care at uniformed services health care facilities on a space-available basis. They are also eligible for medical coverage, on a cost-sharing basis, provided by the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS), and for no-cost treatment provided by the Primary Care for the Uniformed Services (PRIMUS) clinics, where they exist.*

Q. Are family members eligible for dental care?
A. *They are eligible for emergency dental care at uniformed services facilities on a space available basis. They will not be entitled to non-emergency care or for dependent dental care insurance under the Uniformed Services Active Duty Dependents Dental Plan (Delta Dental). The dental insurance plan requires a minimum two-year active duty commitment to qualify. This commitment must be stated in the active duty orders.*

Q. How will family members be identified as eligible for benefits?
A. *The Army Reserve has been working to issue identification cards to family members of the Selected Reserve, in conjunction with their enrollment in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS, in a pre-eligible status. DEERS identifies members and family members as eligible for medical benefits. If the family member is enrolled in DEERS and has a family member identification card, then medical care may be provided. If the family member is not enrolled in DEERS, then action must be taken to become enrolled prior to receiving medical care.*

Q. Are identification procedures the same for all benefits? What if a family member does not have an identification card?
A. *Unlimited use of commissary, exchange, and morale, welfare and recreation facilities will be available to any eligible family member of a Reservist upon presentation of a copy of the soldier's orders to active duty and a reserve or active duty family member identification card or an appropriate photo identification card such as a drivers license. Where a child does not possess a family member identification card or valid photo identification, the child must be accompanied by either the soldier, the soldier's spouse, or an appointed legal guardian possessing a command authorization letter and a copy of the soldier's orders.*

Q. How about identification for medical care?
A. *Upon notification by the service of the unit or soldier's order to active duty, the Defense Manpower Data Center will automatically assign benefits eligibility dates to those reserve family members who have been enrolled in DEERS as pre-eligible for benefits upon order to active duty of the soldier. The eligibility dates will be the same as the soldier's. Those family members not enrolled in DEERS must have an active duty identification card issued to them and be enrolled into DEERS in order to obtain medical benefits.*

Q. What is the family member is not in DEERS?
A. *As noted, family members of reserve soldiers ordered to active duty for more than 30 days are entitled to medical benefits. Identification procedures are as follows:*

Uniformed Services Facilities will provide emergency medical and (where available) dental care to the family member of a reserve soldier with the presumption that they will be reflected as eligible in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System within 120 days.

Non-emergency medical care will be provided if the family member is reflected in DEERS as medical benefits eligible, or if the family member presents an appropriate photo identification card and a copy of a signed DD Form 1172 (Application for Identification Card) accompanied by a set of the sponsor's orders. A DD Form 1172 contains necessary information of on the soldier and family members, and verifies the family member's status.

Health care provided by civilian providers under CHAMPUS will be available to family members who present the appropriate photo identification accompanied by a copy of the sponsor's orders to active duty. To cover those cases where a family member requires medical care and does not have the appropriate identification or a copy of the sponsor's orders to active duty, under non-emergency circumstances, the existing system for verification will be used.

In the event a crisis should occur in a location not supported by a Uniformed Services facility, and a family member cannot be identified as a benefits-eligible family member of a reserve soldier ordered to active duty, the reserve components have compiled a list of crisis reaction telephone numbers that are manned on a 24 hour basis in reserve component headquarters command centers. These numbers have been provided to OCHAMPUS for distribution to civilian health care facilities nation-wide by the OCHAMPUS Regional Field Representatives.

Q. What information is available concerning family support services to family members of reserve soldiers ordered to active duty and

see 'Benefits' on page 27

Air ambulance detachment responds

by SSgt. Francis Crumb

Syracuse, N.Y. — A gray autumn overcast hung low at Hancock International Airport as six UH-1 (Huey) medical evacuation helicopters lifted skyward late in September, signaling the 423rd Medical Detachment's active duty deployment in support of **Operation Desert Shield**.

More than 50 members of the 423rd became the fifth unit to be activated from the 77th ARCOM.

"You have met Army standards," Col. Francis D. Terrell, deputy commander of the 77th, told the aviators prior to their departure for the unit's mobilization site at Ft. Drum in northern New York.

Terrell expressed appreciation to the Reservists on behalf of Maj. Gen. Francis T. Donahue, ARCOM commander, and President Bush. He also extended his gratitude to family members who had assembled at the 423rd's hangar. "We could not do the job without the support of the families," he asserted.

Unit Reservists were not surprised by their call to duty. "I pretty much expected it [activation] if the balloon went up, especially given our mission and the way the Army now relies on reserve medical assets," said Sgt. Nicholas Harmatiuk, a Huey mechanic.

The 423rd, which includes eight medics, 15 pilots and six helicopters, along with support personnel, is a medical evacuation unit with a mission to transport wounded soldiers from the battlefield to secure medical facilities.

Harmatiuk, in civilian life a trooper assigned to the New York State Police substation in the Syracuse suburb of Cicero, was joined at departure ceremonies by his wife, Colette, and four daughters, aged one year to 15.

The real farewells, however, had taken place days before and miles away as the unit's unique flight and support requirements entail a roster of Reservists living throughout the Northeast. "I really haven't had time to think about it," Capt. Robert Dufrane, 423rd commander, said of the call up.

"I think we're ready to do what the Army needs us to do." Dufrane noted the unit had been alerted two weeks earlier for possible activation and the actual orders were received only five days before departure.

Most of the 423rd's soldiers echoed their commander's positive attitude.

"I'm ready, said Spec. Betty Jeanniton, an aviation specialist who leaves three children behind in Brooklyn. "This is my job. This is what I do best."

Unit members (above) and families (right) wave goodbye as the first of the 423rd Medical Detachment's UH-1s lift off and head toward their mobilization station at Ft. Drum, N.Y.

(Photo by SSgt. Francis Crumb)

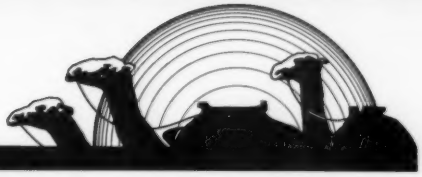
"I wanted to be here, added Spec. Carol Johnson, an equipment records and parts specialist from East Windsor, Conn. "When they said 'be ready', I was."

Being prepared from a professional and military standpoint is sometimes simpler than being "ready" in other areas for the activated citizen-soldier.

"I'm not real happy," said Susan Cesta of Newburgh, N.Y., who traveled to Syracuse with her husband, CWO Joseph G. Cesta, a Huey pilot. "We just bought a new house and we're in the middle of remodeling." The fact that she is expecting the couple's second child in early November didn't make the parting any easier.

Still, she gathered with other family members and visitors on the hangar apron as the engines of the six Hueys spooled up and the whirling blades slowly lifted the choppers into the air.

(SSgt. Crumb is assigned to the Public Affairs Office of the 331st General Hospital in Syracuse, N.Y.)



Sure Pay will guarantee your family's well-being

Washington, D.C. — If you are being ordered to active duty and have not elected to have Sure Pay (direct deposit of pay and allowances to a checking account), you are strongly encouraged to do so prior to your deployment.

If your pay is not being automatically deposited to a checking account that is accessible by your spouse, then your family may not have access to needed funds.

Available options to the soldier for net pay upon mobilization are:

— *Elect Sure Pay option*
— *Initiate a support allotment for dependent support*
— *Allow net pay to go to accrual*

Of these options, the most desirable is the Sure Pay option. It has the advantage of money in the account being available to both the soldier and family at all times and no action is required by the soldier once it has been initiated.

The second most desirable option is the allotment for dependent support. It provides a fixed support to the dependents each month but is limited in its amount and may turn out not be a sufficient amount so as to provide for family needs.

The least desirable option is to allow the net pay to go to an accrual account. The dependent cannot access the accrual account and to withdraw funds, the soldier must personally appear at a U.S. Army finance facility.

Must show hardship

Interest cap can be claimed by some

Washington, D.C. — While it's 50 years old and some would say that it reflects the cost of things in the 1940s, Reservists who have been called to active duty for **Operation Desert Shield** have the ability to cap their interest payments on consumer debts under the **Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940.**

When was the last time anyone in these United States heard of a home mortgage, auto loan or credit card available at six-percent?

That's exactly the maximum current level chargeable by lenders for any Reservist called to active duty. To take advantage of the provisions of the law, Reservists should send a certified, return receipt requested letter to their creditors, along with a copy of their activation orders, as soon as possible. Specific reference to the SSCRA of 1940 should be made as well as specifically asking that your current interest rates be reduced to the six-percent level. The law does not apply to any debt incurred after being called to active duty nor does it cover outstanding student loans.

Its provisions also apply to dependents of those Reservists who otherwise qualify.

The difference between the actual interest rates and the reduced rates is totally forgiven and cannot be collected after completion of active duty. The rates do, however, return to their original rate with the completion of your active duty time with a 30- to 90-day grace period upon completion of active duty. There is no relief from escrow fees, including taxes and their interest.

If personal financial conditions warrant, the mortgage payment obligation can be interrupted partially or totally during the active duty period. Foreclosures cannot begin or continue during the period unless by court order.

The suddenness of the Persian Gulf crisis and its implication have caught many commercial financial institutions flat-footed. The Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Company, better known as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, will absorb the losses on the forgiven interest. Between the two, they hold fully one-fourth of the mortgages in the U.S.

Engineer Center offers desert lessons-learned publication

Ft. Belvoir, Va. — *Engineer Lessons Learned Applicable to Desert Shield* is the most recent publication of the Engineer Studies Center at Ft. Belvoir.

The report gives current information about how engineers have coped with the sand, heat, and terrain of the desert. Engineer, and other tactical units which want to know how to deal with host nations, find water, design a base, pitch a tent in sand, or take advantage of used vehicle tires may want a copy of the report which tells you how and more.

It presents over 160 topics grouped into nine categories: policy and planning, construction, force structure, operation and maintenance, mobility, countermobility, survivability, sustainment engineering, and topographic engineering.

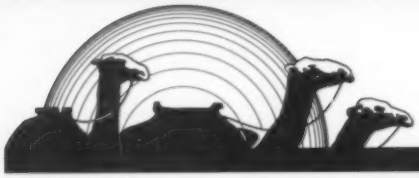
Analysts at the Engineer Studies Center have done extensive research, culling the information from documents, after-action reports, and interviews. For more information, call Danny Brannon, Project Manager, at (703) 355-2115 or DSN 345-2115.

Alerted Reservists entitled to advance pay

Washington, D.C. — Due to the rapid transition from civilian to military status due to **Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm**, some Reservists may experience financial expenses or disruptions that could be alleviated by receipt of an advance on military pay and allowances according to finance officials.

Any Reservist who has been ordered to active duty for more than 14 days, is entitled to receive advance pay, they note. This pay is available at the first duty station or at the mobilization station if the soldier cannot receive pay and allowances due to within 14 days.

Reservists not receiving this pay until reaching the mobilization station, may wish to make arrangements for forwarding the pay to family.



RC Survivor Benefit Plan aims to protect Reservists' families' future

Washington, D.C. — The Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RC-SBP) is designed to protect dependents of retirement eligible Reservists should the soldier die before the 60th birthday, say entitlement specialists at the Pentagon.

To be eligible, the soldier must:

- Have completed 20 or more years of qualifying service with the last eight qualifying years as a member of a reserve component, and
- Complete and return the Survivor Benefit Plan Election Certificate (DD Form 1883) within 90 calendar days of receipt of the 20-year letter (Notification of Eligibility for Retired Pay at Age 60).

Soldiers may designate their spouse, or spouse and children, to receive an annuity after the service-member's death. If the soldier is not married, a person who has insurable interest may be designated as beneficiary. A soldier who is not married at the time of attaining initial eligibility to enroll in the plan may obtain coverage at a later time, should the soldiers marry, remarry or acquire some other legitimate dependent. This is only true, however, provided the soldier requests an election form from the Army Reserve Personnel Center (ARPERCEN). The election must be completed, signed and received by ARPERCEN within one year after marries or acquires the dependent.

Soldiers may elect to provide an annuity based on the full amount of retired pay or on a reduced portion of their retired pay. Soldiers are given three options upon receipt of their election certificate:

- Decline to make an election, with the option to make an election for coverage at age 60;
- Provide an annuity beginning on the 60th anniversary of birth should the Reservist die before that date, or on the day after date of death should it occur after the 60th birthday; or
- Provide an immediate annuity beginning on the day after the date of death, whether before or after age 60.

Only for Desert Shield/Storm

Some qualify for housing allowance, leave sell-back

Washington, D.C. — The National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1991 has authorized payment of Variable Housing Allowance (VHA) to Reservists called or ordered to active duty in connection with **Operation Desert Shield**.

VHA is a "sliding scale" supplement to the basic allowance for quarters aimed at defraying living expenses in areas of the country with particularly high rental or purchase costs.

Payments of VHA are effective with the first day of mobilization and are retroactive for the preceding fiscal year of 1990. Reservists called or ordered to active duty in support of ODS are considered to be permanently assigned to their monthly drill training station for VHA entitlement purposes and should receive the VHA rate for that location.

Individual Mobilization Augmentees and other Reservists called or ordered to active duty for the Persian Gulf Crisis who do not have a regular monthly training site will be paid the VHA rate for the place from which they are called or ordered to active duty. Since VHA offset rules apply, soldiers must submit a VHA Certificate (DA Form 5545) with a copy of their lease or mortgage payment information to the servicing finance and accounting office.

Reservists and retired Reservists who have been called to active duty in support of **Operation Desert Shield/Storm** during fiscal years 1990 and 91 may "cash in" earned leave for active duty whether or not the member has previously "cashed in" 60 days of earned leave as a result of prior active duty.

Payment for the accrued leave will be made when Reservists complete their period of active duty in support of Desert Shield.

Reservist sends open letter to President Bush

Boston, Mass. — 1st. Lieut. Glen T. Meakem, a cargo officer assigned to the 1169th Transportation Terminal Unit here, is now also a published author in the prestigious **Wall Street Journal.**

Appearing prominently on the paper's Sept. 11, 1990 opinion-editorial page, his open letter to the President says, in part "I am a 26-year old Army Reservist and I'm ready, if called, to serve in the Persian Gulf . . . I believe that many other Reservists and, indeed, members of my generation share my commitment."

The second-year graduate student at the Harvard School of Business went on to say, "I volunteered to join the Army and eventually the reserve, not for tuition money and benefits, but so I would be ready to help my country . . . Make no mistake, I fear war and I fear death. I am married and I have a lot to lose. But I am willing to endure hardship and risk my life to help our country defeat an aggressive leader who could kill millions in the future if left unchecked.

"I am not poor. I am not underprivileged . . . However I am willing to leave my wife and delay both my education and career to serve . . . even if that means going to war."

Meakem, a four-year veteran combat engineer while on active duty, concludes "There is no doubt that there are times when fighting a war is unnecessary — even immoral. Perhaps Vietnam was one of those occasions. Perhaps not. But it is equally true that there are times when a democratic people must go to war to halt aggression and atrocity.

"Of course, it would be best if you [President Bush] and other world leaders could peacefully maneuver Hussein out of Kuwait and out of power. However, if you fail, please have confidence that I am prepared . . . to make whatever sacrifice is necessary to do the job by force of arms . . . Fifty years ago you faced combat . . . in a just and necessary war. If you need me now, I will, too."

POL haulers roll toward desert

by Rebecca Marcum

Ft. Lee, Va. — As the trucks rolled down "A" Avenue with a military police escort, the commander of the 298th Transportation Company from Franklin, Pa., watched his soldiers with pride. The convoy had travelled Interstate 95 from Pennsylvania to Ft. Lee without a hitch.

Capt. Todd Mortimer, an eight-year veteran of the unit, and its commander for the past three, said "It's a team effort. That's what makes us as good as we are, and we are cocky about it too."

The medium/heavy truck company, activated by presidential order seven days earlier for **Operation Desert Shield**, arrived here perched inside the cabs of dozens of brand new tanker trucks — tankers just purchased by OCAR with congressionally appropriated funds as part of its Dedicated Procurement Program. The aim of that program is to drastically improve the readiness levels of USAR units. Timing is everything!

Capt. Todd Mortimer, company commander of the 298th Trans. Co., Franklin, Pa. discusses the conduct of the convoy with the Military Police escort as his trucks enter Ft. Lee early in the call-up for Operation Desert Shield.

(Photo by SSgt. Rebecca J. Marcum)

Pride and enthusiasm

"As the unit pulled into the abandoned 240th Quartermaster Battalion's motor pool, you could see the pride and enthusiasm in the faces of the soldiers," according to Col. Allen F. Rossow, Ft. Lee's garrison commander.

The unit was greeted by the entire garrison staff, as well as cold and hot drinks and cakes decorated for the reception.

"Our purpose is to make you feel welcome. We want you to know Ft. Lee is here to assist in anyway we can," Rossow told those gathered at the motor pool.

Ft. Lee serves as the mobilization point for a number of reserve and national guard units, with the 298th being the second unit to call Ft. Lee home. The 145th Transportation Detachment based in Hampton, Va. departed the installation on September 11, headed for the Persian Gulf.

The 298th's final destination is not known. They had come to prepare for deployment wherever they are needed. The unit's mission is to provide transportation of bulk petroleum products over hard surface, primary and secondary roads.

Validation training

Readiness Group Lee validated the training readiness of the unit. "Their training schedule, designed to meet Army Readiness Training Evaluation Program standards, involves collective tasks and individual soldier skills," said, Maj. Ronald Grosso of RG Lee. Collective tasks include things like convoy operations, night driving and setting up defensive perimeters. "During the basic soldier skills training, they will do tasks such as weapons qualification, survival skills and first aid," Grosso said. The unit's first sergeant, MSgt. Kenneth McKnight, said the morale of the unit is extremely high. He credited this to the leadership in the unit from the middle to the top. "Its an adjustment coming from the reserves to active duty. I've been with the unit for over three years and they have always been outstanding performers. I have the greatest confidence in them.

"The support Ft. Lee has given us has baffled the imagination. It's been tremendous, whatever we need is here," he said happily. **(Ms. Marcum is a public affairs specialist assigned to the Public Affairs Office, Ft. Lee, Va.)**

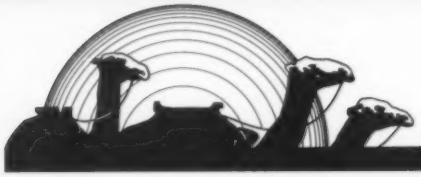
IRS rules 'no cut off of health care benefits' for activated Reservists

Washington, D.C. — The Internal Revenue Service has given notice that employers must continue health care coverage for called-up reservists and their families, if the Reservist so desires and if they are willing to pay the premium for the coverage. The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA) allows employees who leave their jobs for any reason to continue being covered by their ex-employer's health plan, at their own expense, for up to 18 months. The former employer may end the coverage if the person and his or her family begin coverage under another group health plan.

But the IRS has said that military health benefits (including CHAMPUS) available to the families of activated Reservists are not a "group health plan" as the IRS code defines it. Therefore, employers may not stop health care benefits to Reservists called to active duty, or to their families, without their consent.

The IRS ruling will also affect other CHAMPUS-eligible persons who leave their private-sector jobs for any reason and who want to continue being covered by their ex-employer's health plan.

The IRS notice on its ruling appears in *Internal Revenue Bulletin 1990-40*, published Oct. 1, 1990.



DoD's 'answer man' fields flood of calls

Arlington, Va. — After the Presidential announcement that put nearly 50,000 Reservists from all services on deployment and standby orders to the Middle East in support of **Operation Desert Shield** questions about job rights began to fly.

The reserve components' involvement in the crisis has generated an unprecedented number of inquiries to the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Even before the call-up of Selected Reserve elements, NCESGR began to take many inquiries about the job and benefits protections of members who had volunteered for duty.

Since the call-up, the number of calls from the media, employers and Reservists and their families has skyrocketed. In the eight days beginning on August 20, NCESGR staff members and Army Reservist augmentees responded to 1,049 inquiries. NCESGR's automated telephone answering system handled an additional massive number of routine inquiries for information and referral, though the exact number was not available at press time.

The effort involved several days of 24-hour operations and weekend service. "At first, there were many calls from the media and reserve commanders," said Marine Corps Maj. Austin Smith, assistant national ombudsman. "Since then, most have come from members, their spouses, employers or benefits program representatives."

EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE

According to NCESGR officials, most of the questions about benefits centered around the continuation of health care coverage for family members and life insurance. The other major area of concern centered around the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act of 1940, they said, but those were referred to military Judge Advocate officers because it is in the legal arena.

Other frequently asked questions involved the explanation of the difference between "usual" reserve duty and a call-up, and the amount of duty a Reservist may perform. Also, time limits on reemployment following active duty as well as return rights to the same job and geographic area, clarification of state laws, employer policies and union rules or paid and unpaid military leave and other related incidents and advantages of employment.

Army Reservist Sgt. Sheila E. Burnett came to NCESGR from Albany, Ga., to serve her two week's annual training. She said many of the employers she talked to said they "Would continue to provide benefits to their employees who had been called up.

Fellow Army Reservists, Lt. Col C.D. Heidel, Wartburg, Tenn., and SSgt. Glenford S. Turner, Bridgeport, Conn., say they even took calls "From people who wanted to know how they could join the reserve so that they could go to the Middle East."

According to Col. Audrey Wilczek, NCESGR's staff director and an Army Reservist on AGR tour," Providing service and encouraging employer support is our mission and we intend to carry it out as best we can."

Realities of call-up hit South Carolinians

by SFC C. Hairston

Aiken, S.C. — As he made his way to the pulpit microphone at Millbrook Baptist Church in Aiken, S.C., he jokingly quipped — "I'm not so sure this is the right place for me."

A reluctant murmur of laughter quickly faded as the 450th Ordnance Co. commander looked out over unit members and their families.

About 70 unit members and their families had come here tonight to listen to Capt. Jim Vause. As he began his presentation on the possibility of his unit being deployed to the Middle East, the crowd became absorbed in what he was about to say.

"First, I'd like to talk to the children here tonight. You should be proud of the soldier in your family and be proud that they're defending the freedom of this country. And I promise, I will do everything in my power to bring them back safely," he said.

"To the spouses of the soldiers, I ask for understanding and to be prepared in case we have to go." To that end, Vause continued in a somber voice, "It is important to have your personal affairs in order."

Vause then relinquished the floor to MSgt. Philip Kipp, command retention NCO for the 120th ARCOM. Kipp outlined the benefits and challenges in making the transition from a civilian family to a military family.

As the legal officers from the 12th Judge Advocate General Detachment finished their presentation on the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act, the value of a will and power of attorney, family members made notes and asked questions on some of the more confusing issues.

The possibility of deployment cast an ominous atmosphere over the entire proceedings.

Betty Blanchard's husband is a member of the 450th.

Asked about her thoughts on deployment she said, "It scares me to death," as she gathered herself up. "Our home has been in an uproar since he has been on alert. We have a 15-year old very upset because she doesn't know how to cope with problems like this yet."

Sandra Tinney echoed those sentiments. "I never thought my husband would actually have to go out and use his training. Although I feel comfortable managing the family situation in his absence, things are better if he's here," she said.

(SFC Hairston is a journalist assigned to the 120th ARCOM's Public Affairs Office, headquartered in Columbus, S.C.)

U.S. Savings Bonds are as solid as a brick wall. They are safe, backed by the U.S. Government. They are a competitive investment, with market-based rates and tax-deferral and tax-exempt features.

Desert Shield was a 'family affair' for some

by Maj. Jim Allen

Marion, Ohio — Sgt. Dennis Bowers and his wife, Sgt. Norah Bowers give a whole new meaning to the terms "joint military force" and "Total Army".

They are both members of the 79th Quartermaster Company here and were both called to active duty in support of *Operation Desert Shield*.

In mid-September, the two said good-bye to their three children and boarded a convoy bound for Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind. for up to 90 days active duty as cooks.

The Army has always been an important way of life for this young couple of seven years. They met while on active duty in Hanau, Germany. He was a cook with a military police company there while she cooked for a local maintenance unit. The two units shared a consolidated dining facility and it was there they met. It was there he proposed to her just three months later.

The two returned stateside to Ft. Riley, Kan. and a little more than a year later, returned to civilian life, along with their three children. Eventually, they settled in Cardington, Ohio and joined the Army Reserve.

Until the day the two reserve sergeants got the call to report for active duty, Dennis was employed making salad dressing for a food firm in Columbus. Norah was a fulltime homemaker and mother.

Taking it in stride

The Bowers are taking being called in stride and with a bright outlook on the situation.

"We didn't expect anything like this to happen," Norah says, "But there's always the possibility."

Sgt. Dennis Bowers and his wife, Sgt. Norah Bowers, pose for a quick "family photo" before departing Marion, Ohio, on their way to an unspecified location in support of Operation Desert Shield.

"I don't have a problem with it," Dennis says. "It's a way of life you choose when you raise your right hand. You don't look forward to it, but you can't look away from it."

Asked about why they joined the same Army Reserve unit, knowing the possibility of being called to active duty at the same time, both agreed they think the goods outweigh the bads.

"We like being in the same unit," Norah says. "It's convenient for both of us having drill on the same weekend. This gives us the other three weekends to be together as a family."

The two are comfortable, or at least as comfortable as parents can be, about leaving their children behind.

Both sets of grandparents take turns staying with the youngsters.

The Bowers also just bought a new home in Cardington and are glad to have someone around while they're gone. "The neighbors have been absolutely great," according to Norah. "Ever since they found out we were leaving they've offered to do just about everything from mow the grass to babysit to tutor the two school-aged Bowers.

Dennis says when he and his wife learned they might be going to Saudi Arabia, they talked to their children and tried to explain to them. "I don't think they really understand. They realize we're going away for a while, but they relate it to going to Annual Training. They don't really have a clear understanding of the time difference."

Class project for children

The Bowers' oldest, Amanda, told her parents that her school pals would write to her parents as a class project while they are away. "That will be a good way for her to participate in this thing with us, and we're looking forward to getting those letters," Norah affirms.

Turning the conversation to the military, the two talked about the future.

"We're just trying to be calm about it," notes Norah. "If I get myself all worked up, I can't be of help to the others in the unit."

"I hope we get to do some actual cooking wherever we end up, " Dennis adds. "Here [at home station] we don't have a complete kitchen . . . our meals [mostly] catered by a local restaurant." The two agree, cooking in a field environment will be challenging but rewarding.

By the way, Norah does the cooking at home, according to Dennis. But she does let him make the gravy.

(Maj. Allen is the Public Affairs Officer for the 83rd ARCOM headquartered in Columbus, Ohio.)

System handling 325,000 pounds daily

Restrictions levied on U.S.-bound desert mail

Washington, D.C. (ARNEWS) — Although new security restrictions have been placed on mail from the Persian Gulf area to the United States, U.S. military postal officials say this should eventually speed the flow of mail rather than delay it.

Mail from soldiers in southwest Asia is now limited to letter mail of 11 ounces or less that can pass through mail machines. Officials from the Military Postal Service Agency say this restriction should move mail through security checks more quickly.

Outgoing package mail from the Persian Gulf, now prohibited for military personnel, was subject to customs and Federal Aviation Administration mandated searches for contraband. This, say military postal officials, slowed the flow of all mail from the area to addresses in the United States.

Other recent mail announcements include the fact that outgoing mail for service members in Persian Gulf is not subject to censorship. Officials say current law protects the privacy of mail once it enters the postal system. Also, mail addressed to service members who become casualties is neither returned nor forwarded until the service member's next of kin is notified. Once notification has been confirmed, the mail will be forwarded or returned.

Central Command officials are still asking that mail for service members in the Gulf be limited to first class letter mail and audio cassettes **only**. The voluntary restriction will allow CENTCOM to avoid clogging its wartime transportation systems with mail awaiting delivery.

Postal officials say mail for Desert Storm participants is averaging 325,000 pounds daily.

Quick reaction, cooperation nets 'instant' upgrade of USAR ambulances

With the Air Force C-5A on which it arrived parked in the background, a HMMWV waits for a commercial trucker to prepare his flat-bed truck, allowing the truck to be properly blocked and braced for it's trip to Galax, Va.

(Photo by MSgt. Larry Weese)

by Lt. Col. Dick Devlin

Dover AFB, Del. — You remember that classic used car story, don't you? The one about the little old lady from Pasadena who only drove it to church on Sunday. Such a deal!

Would you believe a $44,000 vehicle for just a bit over $3,700? If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Would you like to buy some choice land in Arizona?

Well, proving once again, that truth is stranger than fiction, that's exactly the sort of deal OCAR's Logistics Division was able to turn up. Ultimately, it will bring out of Europe some 343 first-line, all-diesel, M997s — better known as HUMVEES or High Mobility, Multi-Wheeled Vehicles to equipment-hungry medical units.

A most unusual set of circumstances allowed the USAR to jump years ahead in replacing its aging fleets of ambulances at a cost-avoidance, if not out and out savings, of nearly $15-million, according to Col. Robert Fox, chief of OCAR's Logistics Division.

Hands-on Search

After an on-site inspection at several European Reserve Storage Activities, a team from OCAR's Logistics Support Office, led by Lt. Col. David C. Sedgley, had identified a total of 343 ambulances for ultimate shipment to selected USAR medical units in the states.

Sixty-seven of them were shipped "space-available" aboard Air Force C-5 transports returning to Dover, Del. from the Persian Gulf by way of Ramstein Air Base in Germany. The rest will be arriving by sea at two East Coast ports.

The vehicles which arrived by air were destined for high-priority ambulance companies and detachments, those which then stood the best chance of being called to active duty to support **Operation Desert Shield**.

At the aerial port on Dover Air Force Base, MSgt. Larry Weese was OCAR's "facilitator and expediter." On 24-hour standby, Weese's job was to meet the arriving vehicles as they were off-loaded, give them a quick inspection for damage and completeness and cross check their documentation to assure that the USAR was getting what it had bought.

One-man dealership

This one-man HUMVEE dealership then typed up the necessary documentation and arranged with the Air Force outbound freight section for their trans-shipment to destination. Weese recalled that at one time he had 27 of the hummers lined up on his "lot" waiting for the commercial transportation to pick them up.

MSgt. Larry Weese checks the shipping data against his manifest before completing the process of sending the vehicle on to its final destination at Wallops Island, Va.

(Photo by Lt. Col. Dick Devlin)

"This really isn't business as usual," Weese commented, "We're trying to cut as many corners as possible and make it as simple as we can for the receiving unit without compromising the accountability for the trucks.

SSgt. Didier C. Phillips, motor sergeant for the 441st Medical Company (Ambulance) at Wallops Island, Va., had gotten word from First Army that his unit was going to receive the new HMMWVs "soon".

"They really weren't able to tell me much more than that, but it was clear that I'd better stay at the center through the weekend to make sure there'd be someone there to meet the civilian truckers and receive the HUMVEES," Phillips stated. Long-established leave and vacation plans were overturned to accommodate the pending shipment; his wife and children went on alone while Phillips "watched the store."

"It was a little like a blind date," Phillips mused. "I really didn't know what to expect. I got a call of MSgt. Weese up at Dover telling me they were on the way and about three hours later the low-boys started arriving."

New experience

Phillips said he had never seen anything happen quite as fast since he'd been around the Army. The first HMMWVs had left Ramstein on the preceding Thursday and were sitting on the 441st's line at Wallops Island the following Monday.

"They're really brand new," Phillips marvelled, "They've even got the operator's manuals with them and the basic issue items are still in their original packaging.

"The only real problems I have now is there's no room left in my motor pool and I've got a less-than-happy wife."

They had borrowed HMMWVs from other units in the past and an assistance team from Readiness Group Ft. Lee had conducted operator training for them, but according to Phillips, unit members were going to be "really surprised" when they came to the next drill weekend.

The ultimate goal is, in an established priority, to fill all HMMWV ambulance authorizations, replace all CUCV-based ambulances and complete the conversion of area support battalions and medical companies (ambulance) as part of the Medical Force 2000 plan.

SSgt. Didier C. Phillips, motor sergeant for the 441st Medical Company at Wallops Island, Va., gives one his unit's new vehicles a quick operational check before fuelling the truck and putting it out on his "line".

(Photo by Lt. Col. Dick Devlin)

ARPERCEN backs up *Desert Shield* effort

St. Louis, Mo. — The Army Reserve Personnel Center has been involved from the start in the world's first major military crisis of the post-Cold War era.

Within hours of Iraq's August invasion of Kuwait, President Bush drew his "line in the sand," a line that was backed up by **Operation Desert Shield**, the largest deployment of U.S. troops since the 1960s.

Iraqi tanks were still rumbling in the streets of Kuwait City when telephone lines began lighting up on the desks of personnel managers at ARPERCEN.

Traditionally, whenever world events spur U.S. military action, ARPERCEN begins receiving calls from its clientele of hundreds of thousands of Army Reserve and retired soldiers, and the Iraq invasion of Kuwait was no exception.

ARPERCEN leaders instructed their personnel managers to begin amassing lists of potential Army Reserve volunteers — who soon numbered in the thousands. The managers then began building specialized lists of soldiers and retirees holding critical skills needed both at U.S. posts and in Saudi Arabia. "Whenever there's a military threat to the United States, these calls start rolling in," said Lt. Col. Randy Osowski, then a division chief in ARPERCEN's Officer Personnel Management and now the deputy director of its Mobilization, Operations and Training Directorate.

Center of action

MobOps has been the hot spot of ARPERCEN-related actions in support of Desert Shield. The directorate staffs and manages the ARPERCEN Operations Center, which went onto a 24-hour staffing schedule soon after the crisis began. Its Mobilization Plans and Requirements Division, Individual Mobilization Augmentation Division, Mobilization Training Division and others have been involved directly in the support. Long hours, overtime, and plenty of midnight oil burning has occurred throughout the directorate.

MobOps coordinates ARPERCEN's response to calls from throughout the Army for help from the ranks of ARPERCEN's clients: soldiers of the Individual Ready Reserve, the Individual Mobilization Augmentation (IMA) Program, and Army retirees.

By November, more than 10,000 Army Reserve and retired soldiers had volunteered for duty in connection with the crisis. Of these, more than 1,700 volunteers had been placed on extended active duty orders.

Volunteers have been ordered to active duty by the Total Army Personnel Command (PERSCOM), which works closely with ARPERCEN to accomplish the mission. The process of ordering volunteers to Desert Shield duty works like this. PERSCOM coordinates throughout the Army to determine where ARPERCEN-managed Reserve and retired soldiers could best be used. It then provides each requirement for a soldier to ARPERCEN. ARPERCEN works the request internally until a qualified Reservist or retired volunteer is identified. The name and other key information is then passed back to PERSCOM for preparation of orders for volunteer Reservists. Retired volunteers are called up by ARPERCEN.

200K call up

During the third week of the crisis, President Bush heightened ARPERCEN's involvement when he invoked his authority to call to involuntary duty up to 200,000 members of the Selected Reserve. Included in this group are members of Army Reserve units, and, key to ARPERCEN, members of the ARPERCEN-managed IMA program.

A personnel clerk at ARPERCEN searches his database files for information to help identify IMA soldiers who might be called up under the 200K presidential authority.

SSgt. Rebecca Duale, ARPERCEN's Officer Personnel Management Division, talks to a Reservist about the impact of the Gulf Crisis.

The Pentagon quickly allotted more than 1,000 IMA positions to its major commands for call-up under the Presidential authority, and ARPERCEN soon responded by notifying the selected soldiers and cranking out the appropriate orders. More than 500 IMAs had been called to duty under provisions of the presidential action by November; meanwhile, many other IMA soldiers were already on duty as volunteers. President Bush's summoning of Selected Reservists triggered another ARPERCEN action, establishment on Aug. 24 of an around-the-clock hotline for Army Reserve soldiers, retired soldiers, and concerned members of their families.

The Center summoned telephone company customer service representatives who installed and activated the hotline within hours.

Under the leadership of ARPERCEN's Officer Personnel Management, hotline teams of as many as 15 soldiers per shift went into action, taking volunteers and answering questions. All hotline team members were provided a detailed, multi-tabbed manual to assist them in answering the queries of concerned soldiers and families.

Non-stop hotline

Hundreds of calls reached hotline in the first few days after the presidential call-up; as the answers to the more common questions began being passed down the chain of command, the number of calls dropped. Activity picked up again following subsequent unit call-ups. The lines will remain in place throughout Desert Shield.

see 'ARPERCEN' on page 26

Army releases 1991 Reserve Component Board Schedule

Washington, D.C. — The Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel has released the Reserve Component Board schedule for calendar year 1991.

The schedule, which includes centralized officer, AGR enlisted, IRR enlisted and AGR accession and continuation boards, and lists convening dates and dates of rank, where applicable, for zones of consideration.

Specific questions about the board should be forwarded to the Secretariat for DA Selection Boards (RC) telephonically at (414) 263-7363 or on DSN at 693-7363.

Board Title	Latest Date of Rank	Inclusive dates
AGR Officer Entry and Continuation	none	Jan 23-Feb 15
AGR Assignment Advisory	none	Feb 20-Mar 1
AGR Promotion to MSgt./Sgt. Maj.	none	Feb 11-Feb 22
AMEDD Promotion to Capt.	May 16, 1988	Jan 15-Jan 23
AMEDD Promotion to Maj.	May 16, 1985	Jan 24-Feb 1
APL Promotion to Maj.	May 16, 1985	Mar 5-Mar 29
Chaplain Promotion to Capt.	May 16, 1988	Mar 19-Mar 22
Chaplain Promotion to Maj.	May 16, 1985	Mar 19-Mar 22
AGR Enlisted Promotion to SFC	none	Apr 19-Apr 26
WO Promotion to CW3/CW4 and Master Warrant	Dec 12, 1986	May 7-May 24
AGR Enlisted Promotion to SSgt.	none	Jun 18-Jun 28
AGR Enlisted Entry and Continuation	none	Jun 24-Jun 28
AMEDD Promotion to Lt. Col.	Jan 1, 1985	Jun 11-Jun 19
AMEDD Promotion to Col.	Jan 1, 1988	Jun 19-Jun 28
AGR Assignment Advisory Board	none	Jun 12-Jun 21

Board Title	Latest Date of Rank	Inclusive dates
AGR Officer Entry and Continuation	none	Jul 16-Jul 26
APL Promotion to Col.	Jan 1, 1988	Jul 23-Aug 23
RC Command Sergeant Major	none	Sept 9-Sept 13
USAR Professional Development Educ.	none	Sept 16-Sept 26
APL Promotion to Lt. Col.	Jan 1, 1886	Sept 24-Oct 18
General Officer Ass'g'm'nt Elig.	none	Oct 22-Nov 1
IRR Enlisted Promotion to SSgt.,SFC, MSgt. and Sgt.Maj.	none	Sept 9-Sept 25
Chaplain Promotion to Lt. Col.	Jan 1, 1986	Nov 4-Nov 8
Chaplain Promotion to Col.	Jan 1, 1988	Nov 4-Nov 8
AGR Enlisted Entry and Continuation	none	Nov 4-Nov 8
APL Promotion to Capt.	May 16, 1989	Dec 2-Dec 20
Promotion to 1st. Lieut.	Jan 1, 1989 Jul 1, 1989	May 13-May 17 Nov 18-Nov 22
Promotion to CW2 Jun 30, 1989	Dec 31, 1988 Nov 18-Nov 22	May 13-May 17

Finally, unit vacancy promotion boards will meet from April 8 through 12; Aug. 5 through 9 and Dec. 2 through 6, 1991.

ARPERCEN phone numbers undergo big changes

St. Louis. Mo. — Most of the commercial and Defense Switch Network (DSN) telephone numbers for the Army Reserve Personnel Center (ARPERCEN) and other tenants of the Federal Records Center at 9700 Page Blvd., here, changed in November.

The first four digits of most of ARPERCEN's commercial phone numbers have changed so that numbers which had begun 263-6XXX have changed to 538-2XXX; numbers beginning 263-7XXX are now 538-3XXX.

The last three digits of the numbers will remain the same, as will the commercial area code of (314).

Commercial numbers for the Center's Retired Activities Division, all of which begin 263-0XXX, have not and will not change. Neither will the commercial num-

see 'Phones' on page 27

With new unit assignments few and training tours tight, Reservists ask 'How can I get retirement points?'

by Maj. John Patthoff

St. Louis, Mo. — Reductions in training funds and cutbacks in the size of the Army Reserve unit structure are making it difficult for some Reserve soldiers to obtain the training they need to earn enough retirement points each year.

Each Army Reserve soldier needs 50 points to make a "good" — or qualifying — year for retirment eligibility purposes. Add up 20 good years across an Army Reserve career, and the soldier becomes eligible to draw a monthly reserve retirement check at age 60. According to officials of the Army Reserve Personnel Center in St. Louis, soldiers who are members of Army Reserve Troop Program Units don't have much trouble accumulating 50 points a year.

Regular attendance at unit training assemblies and two weeks of Annual Training give unit members more than enough points to earn a qualifying year.

Not so easy

But, says ARPERCEN, it's not so easy for the more than 280,000 Army Reserve soldiers who are not members of units. This group includes members of the Individual Ready Reserve, the Individual Mobilization Augmentation program and the Standby Reserve (Active List).

Until the recent cutbacks took hold, qualified members of the IRR and IMA program could call ARPERCEN and — with a few exceptions — arrange all the paid training they wanted — up to 179 days a year. Lenghty or multiple training assignments were often available which assured a soldier more than enough points to make a qualifying retirement year.

In many instances, IRR and IMA soldiers who wanted to join Army Reserve units could call ARPERCEN and arrange an assignment.

Tougher and tougher

But cuts in reserve training money, and the impending downsizing of the Army Reserve unit structure has changed all that. Far fewer training tours are now available for non-unit soldiers than in the past. Assignments to units are so tightly controlled that ARPERCEN has had to temporarily suspend making any.

So what's an IRR or IMA soldier to do? Training in a non-pay status — also called "points only" training — may be the only alternative for many non-unit reserve soldiers.

The most common form of non-paid training for retirement points is through correspondence course work.

Courses available are listed in DA Pamphlet 351-20, and all IRR, Standby and IMA soldiers may apply for courses on DA Form 145. Soldiers should call their ARPERCEN personnel management officer or career manager for information and applications.

Attachment to a unit or other defense organization in a non-pay status is another alternative that ARPERCEN can arrange. Soldiers can be attached to — and train with — Army Reserve units, active Army units, reinforcement training units (RTUs), ROTC detachments, reserve components of other services, Army National Guard units and U.S. Army Reserve Forces Schools.

Requests for attachment must come to ARPERCEN from the unit or organization on a DA Form 4651-R; if all is in order, ARPERCEN then publishes the attachment orders and the soldier can begin training. In addition to earning retirement points, attachment to a unit will also earn an evaluation report and promotion selection boards like to see evaluation reports in soldiers' files.

Soldiers can also earn points by attending certain military-related conventions and speaking engagements and by completing special training projects for Army units or headquarters.

The details about training in a non-paid status are in Army regulation 140-1; those about how to earn retirement points are in AR 140-185. Soldiers can also call or write their ARPERCEN personnel managers for all the specifics.

So, say ARPERCEN personnel managers, training is still available for soldiers who need it to earn retirement points — it's just that most of it is non-paid.

(Maj. John Patthoff is the chief of the Adjutant General Corps-Finance Corps Branch, within Combat Service Support Division of ARPERCEN's Officer Personnel Management Directorate.)

ARPERCEN

continued from page 24

Publicity concerning the hotline appeared on CNN and in USA Today; United Press International and the Associated Press carried the number on their news wires, distributing it to media throughout the world.

The pace quickened again on Sept. 12, when the Secretary of the Army announced that he would involuntarily call as many as 500 retired soldiers to duty. ARPERCEN's retiree mobilization team — which had been handling calls for and from retiree volunteers from the beginning — now began a new mission.

A key behind-the-scenes player in the Army Reserve's role in Desert Shield has been the Policy Coordination Office, an activity of the Office, Chief Army Reserve collocated with ARPERCEN in St. Louis. Many existing regulations and procedures for calling reserve soldiers to active duty were written with mobilization in mind, but the presidential call-up is something less than — and legally distinct from — mobilization.

The Policy Office rapidly became a resource for ARPERCEN, the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, and other Army headquarters working to define terms and put procedures for the call-up into effect.

Another key player has been the ARPERCEN Directorate of Information Management. DOIM's programmers and managers have fielded a variety of requests for specialized information from users at ARPERCEN, major commands and the Pentagon. ARPERCEN's involvement in Desert Shield, which has involved most of the Center's 2,200-member civilian and military work force — is expected to continue for the duration of the operation.

Fights

continued from page 9

help to make the USAR unique they also make telling our story more difficult. CSS programs lack the quick recognition and emotional support that items such as major weapons systems engender. The natural bias toward an army with more "tooth than tail" was met head-on and the importance of CSS to sustainment of war efforts was emphasized on every occasion.

What were the results of telling the story? Virtually all of the areas of special emphasis — CSS programs generally — necessary O&M support, equipping, training and facilities, were resourced at higher levels than ever before or were improved through a planned redistribution of active component assets.

For example, in Operations and Maintenance, sufficient resources are programmed to contain and significantly reduce the backlog of maintenance and repair. Fielding and sustainment of equipment assets to be distributed from the active component to the USAR is supported.

Minimum essential requirements for the Reserve Component Training Development Action Plan now funded. For the entire six-year period the USAR training program increases over $94 million.

Equipment status improving

The outlook for equipment enhancement is encouraging. The dedicated procurement program will continue and the redistribution of active Army equipment will compensate for shortfalls as well as improve the Reservist's training environment. Army Reserve units will use the very same equipment they will employ in the event of mobilization, often for the first time, in training USAR soldiers.

Programmed dollars for the USAR military construction appropriation grew very insignificantly, and in most years not at all. This area remains a high priority challenge and will continue to get close attention. However, a commitment on the part of Army leadership to transfer active component real property to the USAR brightened the facilities outlook.

Reservists help own case

Studies are being designed which will identify locations where it may be possible to use former active military installations to accommodate USAR Metropolitan Consolidated Training Centers and to escape from high cost leases. However, active military facilities tend to exist where land is plentiful, not necessarily where large numbers of Reservists live. As a result, active facilities tend to be better suited to roles as Regional Reserve Support Hubs than metropolitan complexes. The support hub concept takes advantage of the size and infrastructure of once active installations and of their ability to house, feed, equip and maintain units for an extended time, such as during annual training periods.

Input from Army Reserve commanders and troop units will be sought and valued. Stay tuned for what could be some pretty exciting news on this promising front.

To date, the resourcing challenge has been met and significant improvements made. Historic shortfalls are being remedied financially and programmatically. Of 28 high-priority, but unfunded, requirements for 1992 through 1997, 19 are now fully funded and five of the remainder have been partially funded.

The immediate task is to protect these gains from being eroded during the continuing program review process. The continuing responsibility is to use these resources wisely during subsequent budgeting and execution phases of the Army Reserve program.

(Dr. Don Deppe is the senior analyst assigned to the Capabilities Branch of OCAR's Program, Analysis and Evaluation Division at the Pentagon)

Benefits

continued from page 15

who should they contact to receive it?

A. *Family centers are located on major Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard installations. They are staffed by knowledgeable personnel to assist immediate family members of active duty, reserve and national guard personnel* **of all services** with information and referral services, emergency family assistance, counseling, and related support. Additionally, all Army Reserve commands and National Guard units have existing family support coordinators who can provide assistance.

Q. How can reserve family members contact family assistance centers?

A. *Family centers may be accessed by calling the general information operator at the military installation nearest the family member.*

Q. Are there any other family support referral services available?

A. *Yes, this DoD response will be augmented by the American Red Cross, which is mobilizing its vast network of chapters to assist in addressing health and welfare inquiries from family members.*

Q. Can I get legal assistance from the military?

A. *Yes. Federal law authorizes the military departments to provide legal assistance (subject to availability of legal staff resources) to military members on active duty and their family members in connection with their personal civil legal affairs. Most major military installations can provide such assistance and can help with questions on powers of attorney, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act, reemployment rights, and other information.*

Phones

continued from page 25

bers for the Fulltime Support Management Center, all of which begin 263-9XXX.

Like the commercial numbers, the first four digits of most of ARPERCEN's DSN (former AUTOVON) numbers have changed. Numbers which began 693-6XXX are now 892-2XXX; numbers opening with 693-7XXX have become 892-3XXX. The last three digits of these numbers will remain the same.

DSN numbers for the Center's Retired Activities Division, all of which begin 693-0XXX, will not change nor will those for the Fulltime Support Management Center, all of which begin 693-9XXX.

There will be no changes to the Center's existing toll-free numbers.

Soldier

continued from page 11

Now he proudly points to his two daughters, both of whom have college degrees.

Hard to cut the cord

Does he still feel part of the Army? Indeed. "Anyone who draws a pension, and who has spent the amount of time I have dedicated to our way of life, cannot cut the cord."

And cut the cord he hasn't, though he's spent the last 19 years as an employee of Indiana Bell Telephone. He went with the company within two weeks of his retirement in 1969; he's now a manager of network operations.

Now, more than 40 years after his enlistment, CERTAIN SAGE allowed him to soldier again, to share his experience and perspectives with younger soldiers of an entirely new generation.

When the invitation to return for these few days of duty came, "I was happy to respond," he states.

FORUM

Reemployment rights and the volunteer

I was reading, with some dismay, your September 1990 **DESERT SHIELD** special edition of *CARNOTES* [the Chief, Army Reserve's bi-monthly newsletter to the field. A special version of the publication was prepared and sent to each member of every USAR unit alerted for duty.]

In the questions and answers section, your reassuring answer to the question as to the loss of reemployment rights, for someone who is a volunteer, is a "No."

My experience is that this is not necessarily so. Please note the enclosed article from *Army Times*. I think it speaks for itself.

Additionally, I must state that I am a unit administrator for a USAR unit. When the Gulf crisis began, several members of my unit were willing to volunteer. Several of them later declined, stating that their employers would fire them if they *volunteered*. There would be no problem if the unit were activated. One member worked for the Department of Defense!

I think you should reconsider that resounding "No" and indicate in a future issue that the question of reemployment rights is at least questionable.

John E. Hopkins
Auburn, N.Y.

We referred your letter to NCESGR, the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve for clarification and interpretation. As the Department of Defense agency which promotes employer-Reservist cooperation NCESGR is the point of contact on employer-Reservist obligations to each other on reemployment rights.

The National Ombudsman at NCESGR, Air Force Col. C. N. Dawson, responds that "Your concerns regarding job protections for **voluntary** *duty are addressed in the federal "Veterans' Reemployment Rights (VRR) Statute" (38 U.S.C. sub-paragraphs 2021 and 2024).*

"Please note that paragraphs (b)(1), (b)(2) and (g) of sub-paragraph 2024 allow for **voluntary** *as well as involuntary Reserve active [non-training] duty. Note that these cites also include provisions for extending the four-year ceiling on non-training active duty. Reservists are entitled to reemployment in the same or similar position with seniority, status and rate of pay as though never absent* **if they request reemployment within 90 days after release from** ***active duty*** *(31 days if a Reservist were released from the call-up on or before Jan. 18, 1991, or up to one year if delay is due to service related hospitalization). All reservists who perform active duty in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM are protected against termination without cause and denial of promotion.*

"NCESGR realizes that many Guard and Reserve units do not have advisers with comprehensive knowledge of employers' obligations and reservists' reemployment rights. Should a reservist have questions or concerns regarding reemployment, insurance or other benefits that the unit can't answer, he or she should be referred to the [pertinent] state Employer Support Committee, DoL's Veterans' Employment and Training Service (DoL/VETS) or NCESGR's National Ombudsman at 1 (800) 336-4590 for information and assistance.

*The "*Reservists' Job Security Limited*" article in the July 10, 1989, issue of* Army Times *mentioned in your letter concerns Maj. [Kestutis] Eidukonis, an Army Reservist [who lives and works in Pennsylvania] who performed extensive amounts of active duty for training over a number of years. Training duty is addressed by a separate area of the VRR law (sub-paragraph 2024(d)), and includes unique obligations and protections.* **[It] is not a proper comparison to the active duty being performed in support of DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM.**

"The Third Circuit Court of Appeals provided guidance for extensions of active duty and situations involving "bad faith" on the part of the employee-Reservist. The Eidukonis case was remanded in July of 1989, but has not been reconsidered utilizing the Circuit Court's guidance as of this time. DoL/VETS has published guidance stating that the Eidukonis case applies only to the "highly unusual facts" raised in the case and then only in the states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and the Virgin Islands."

When all is said and done, Reservists returning from duty with DESERT SHIELD/ DESERT STORM should seek their jobs back as soon as possible after they are released from active duty, but in no case let more than the maximum allowable time go by without taking the positive step of informing your employer you are home and expect to return to your job.

Thanks for bringing up the question so that it could be clarified for all Reservists. We decided to run the response in the magazine as a letter to the editor since the publication reaches all Reservists at their home addresses.

Cadets, not Redlegs

I need to make a comment with reference to "Marching through Iowa", page 12 of **ARMY RESERVE Magazine**, Vol. XXXV, number 3. We are certain that the 3rd Bn. 14th Field Artillery is a fine outfit, but we are not members of it. The personnel depicted on that page are Capt. H. Gene Engebretsen (Air Defense Artillery), and Cadets Michael Neal, Noel Barham (head down) and Chuck Jensen, all of Bemidji State University's Cadet Northland Battalion.

As you undoubtedly know, ROTC provides over 75 percent of the Army's officers. Yet, the numbers themselves don't even come close to conveying the vital part ROTC now plays in Reserve affairs, especially in light of the Simultaneous Membership Program through which cadets can be Guard or Reserve unit members while they are in college. I highly recommend coverage of some ROTC activities in future issues of Army Reserve.

I receive [the magazine] because I, too, am a Reservist (AGR). Keep up the good work, and please telephone me if I can be of any further assistance.

Maj. Richard E. Wynn
Bemidji, Minn.

Jewelry draws fire

Upon opening the second 1990 issue of your magazine, I was surprised to see the picture on the inside cover.

In our reserve unit, personnel are told that they are not to wear jewelry with the BDU and only authorized jewelry with class As and Bs. The soldier pictured is a young woman with two highly visible chains, one of which certainly appears to be unauthorized.

The picture in question, I think, sets a pretty poor example for other Reservists.

Lt. Col. Joan L. Cooper
Troy, Mich.

This seems to be the time of year for uniform questions. Paragraph 1-14a-d of AR 670-1, "Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia", deals with the questions of jewelry and uniforms. It is fairly specific about the subject but not without leaving some latitude for interpretation. A wrist watch, wrist bracelet (often interpreted to include POW/MIA bracelets) and two rings are authorized unless they are deemed a hazard to safety of health by the local commander.

The reg goes on to say that no jewelry will appear exposed on any uniform. If you consider for a moment that if PFC Clark were wearing her BDU jacket, neither her ID tag chain nor her personal chain would be visible. Most definitely "fad devices, vogue medallions, personal talismans or amulets are not authorized."

We'll defer to the local command in its, perhaps liberal, interpretation of the reg, just as we must with your command's more conservative view that the reg does not allow any jewelry with the Class C uniform. After all, this is one of the reasons commanders are paid so well.

Unit citation correction

In an early 1989 issue of **ARMY RESERVE Magazine**, and again in the most recent issue 1990, there was erroneous information provided concerning effective methods to verify individual eligibility for unit awards.

After the first article, Lt. Col. Clayton R. Newell, chief of my Historical Services Division wrote to clarify the situation. In his letter he noted, in part, that if ". . . what you meant by "historical brief" is an organization's official Lineage and Honors Certificate . . . the information on that certificate will not necessarily help someone ascertain what awards he or she is authorized. Unit decorations are shown on the certificates, but neither the dates of the award nor the orders announcing the awards are listed."

The best resources are DA Pamphlet 672-3 **Unit Citation and Campaign Participation Credit Register**. It is available on microfiche and should be maintained in every unit personnel section. The other military services maintain similar publications.

Please make these facts available to your readers in the next available issue of your magazine to avoid confusion and correct the erroneous information.

Brig. Gen Harold W. Nelson
Chief, Military History
Washington, D.C.

Supersonic bicyclists?

I just received my new **ARMY RESERVE Magazine** and was flipping through it. I ran across an article on Page 27 of your first 1990 issue.

The article was about a Reservist winning the First Annual National Military Cycling Championships (at Ft. Carson, Colo. — ed.).

Since I am a Louisiana State Cycling Champion myself, I was very interested in the article. The article goes over the type of weather, conditions, and times. It said that the winner finished a 40-mile course that was rainy, cold, and hilly in 43:40.

To my knowledge, this is a new World's Record. It means the cyclist was pedaling at almost 60-miles per hour both up and down the hilly terrain. INCREDIBLE! The 1982 special edition of the Guiness Book of World's records lists the speed records for human-powered vehicles as 58.64 mph (single person) by Dave Grylls at the Ontario Speedway, Calif., on Oct 27, 1980, and 62.92 mph (multiple riders) by Dave Grylls and Leigh Barczewski, also at Ontario on May 4, 1980

I hope your story contained a misprint or something. But if it is true, I hope you get the cyclist to call the Guinness folks so they can record this entry.

I would appreciate it if you would let me (and your readers) know of any changes in this article or I will have people telling me they can pedal 60-mph all year long.

Sgt. Marshall R. Shannon
Baton Rouge, La.

We really pulled our hair out on this one. We first thought perhaps we had misread the original release and that it might have been a 40-kilometer course instead of a 40-mile route. No. The stats we had drawn from were in miles.

Whoops! There it was! As we moved to page 2 of the release we failed to notice a new label heading the statistical breakout.

So, here are the corrected stats. Lt. Col. Robert Frick did complete the course in 43:40, but the distance pedaled was 17.5 miles and, since the shorter distance was run a day after the 40-miler, the rain had a chance to stop and the road was dry. That would put his speed at about 39.7 mph.

Now you know the rest of the story and hopefully you won't have to listen to other cyclists telling you they can pedal a mile-a-minute for nearly and hour.

Please run articles on entitlements

Because of the increased tension in the Persian Gulf and the recent callup of Reservists, it is necessary for all Reservists to be "family ready" as well as ready to go to war if needed. This is what "readiness" is all about.

I think it would be highly beneficial to print an article or publish a pamphlet which covers and defines all reserve entitlements when Reservists are called up for active duty. This would help ensure that the family members left behind to carry on the family responsibilities would be prepared to carry out those tasks and would be financially prepared to deal with the associated hardship.

Army Reservists must be prepared to be placed on active duty at any time during hostilities, but being "family ready" will help make the transition from civilian to soldier that much smoother for both the Reservist and the family.

Maj. Robert G. Koval
Holbrook, N.Y.

We do, too. Hope you find the material provided in this issue a good primer for the family. The OCAR Public Affairs Office also provided those units which had been alerted, a special issue of **CARNOTES**, *with an expanded version of the information contained in this issue of* **ARMY RESERVE Magazine**, *and don't forget DA Pamphlet 360-525, the* **Family Assistance Handbook for Mobilization**.

Forgotten in 'Just Cause'

I have just read the many fine articles you included in the second issue for 1990 on **Operation Just Cause**.

Many of the articles also appeared in the Reserve Officers Association magazine. The one by Lt. Col. Welton was extremely informative but left out some of the participants. The 448th Civil Affairs Company, Ft. Lewis, Washington also sent personnel to Panama in December.

Our company commander, Lt. Col. Jerome R. Gutzwiler, along with Maj. David R. Porter, a civilian dentist who left his sole practice for 30 days to serve, Capt. Gil Gordon, a military police officer, and Lt. John F. Nelligar, a nurse who worked with the local medical personnel, all went in December. They were followed by Capt. David Corulli, a public safety specialist, Lt. Randy D. Bourne and SFC Jan E. Lewis, both civilian police officers who worked with the Panamanian police forces in early 1990.

I hope you will include this in a future issue along with similar letters you receive from other units who were not included in the articles.

Capt. Jack L. Skidmore
Kirkland, Wash.

Actually, the only article which ran in the ROA's ***Officer Magazine*** *was the one by Lt. Col. Welton. The supporting pieces were all "exclusives" to ARMY RESERVE Magazine. Since The Officer is a monthly, his piece ran there first: it's just one of the many vagaries of the system.*

If you compare the two articles closely, however, you'll see that we were able to better define the participating units and add several which were not included in the early first release to ROA. That's one of the advantages of being a quarterly. One of the old maxims in the news business is that "First reports are always wrong." The fact that you can be the second or third to report on the same event and still be wrong (or incomplete) only serves to prove the former.

So far, we have not heard from any other units who may have been "short changed" in the article, but we'd be glad to hear from anyone else we left out.

Headgear out of line for Presidential occasion

I was extremely upset at the photograph of Spec Linda J. Meidling wearing her headgear improperly which appeared (Vol. XXXVI, No. 3, page 26) of your magazine.

At so prestigious an event hosted by the Commander-in-Chief I would have thought Spec Meidling would have consulted AR

670-1 if she wanted to ensure she had her uniform on properly.

From the photograph, not only is her headgear worn improperly it looks to be too small. I hope all soldiers have enough pride in the uniform they volunteer to wear to learn how to wear it properly.

SFC Lois L. Rutledge
San Antonio, TX 78247

Well, para. 16-12 b (4) of AR 670-1 states that the female cap will be worn "with front vertical crease centered on the forehead . . . approximately one-inch above eyebrows . . . hair will not be visible on the forehead below the front bottom edge of the cap."

NCOLP not a cure for all specialties

I read Lt. Col. (Ret.) J.P. Rems' letter in your last edition (Third Issue of 1990, page 30) in which he advises that any soldier in grade E6 and higher may use the Non-Commissioned Officer Logistics Program's corresponding studies program as both a tool to build retirement points and to broaden their careers.

I feel that I must call attention to an oversight on his part which could raise unfair expectations among potential applicants in the field. Para. 7-17 of AR 614-200 lists specific MOSs which may apply for NCOLP. What Lt. Col. Rems failed to note is the fact that the program is limited to those feeder MOSs.

Thanks for getting the exact word out.

SGM David Gilbert
Senior Enlisted Reserve Advisor
HQ, Army Materiel Command
Alexandria, Va.

VA home loan help

I wish to help 2nd. Lieut. Cold (a letter in FORUM, Vol.XXXVI, Number 3) and other Reservists who have questions about home mortgage loans.

Reservists who have served at least 90 days of continuous active service qualify for a special Federal Housing Administration (FHA) loan, not a Veterans' Administration home loan. The loan is known as FHA/VA, FHA Veterans or FHA 203(b) Veterans. [The point of clarification is] this is not a VA loan; it is an FHA loan.

The major advantage of this loan is that it requires less of a downpayment than FHA/Conventional loans. This means a $750 reduction in the down payment required for purchase of any home costing over $25,000

Potential buyers should contact a local financial institution, not the VA. Proof of eligibility is established by completing an Employer Verification Form. A unit commander will be able to verify a soldier's status in the reserve.

The home must be "owner-occupied, single-family". There is a maximum loan amount that varies depending upon location and maximum term of 30 years.

Col. Don L. McNeilly
Seviersville, Tenn.

Thanks for taking the time to write and clarify the problem for Lt. Cold and our readers. In addition to Col. McNeilly's input, an anonymous respondent from a Sacramento, Calif., USAR hospital unit provided us with a copy of the pamphlet cited by Lt. Cold. The flyer is known as "Stay on Top of a World of Benefits" and is Retention Publicity Item 457 dated April 1988. A section of the brochure deals with home loans and outlines "Veterans' Administration/Federal Housing Administration Home Loans". We can see where someone who does not deal with the various types of home loans available could misinterpret the information provided in that section. The operative caveat, as cited by Col. McNeilly, is that this is ***not*** *a VA loan.*

The VA will, however, provide a certificate of veterans status (assuming the applicant meets the 90-day criteria) which the Reservist must provide to the local FHA lender with the loan application. Complete VA Form 26-8261 and submit it to any VA regional office of center for a determination. Here ends your involvement with the VA.

We hope this clears up an always confusing subject and thanks to everyone for their help.

Divorce '10-Year Rule' misinterpreted

I read the Update article by Maj. Donald Betzold (**ARMY RESERVE Magazine**, Third Issue of 1990) concerning the effect a divorce may have on military retirement pay. There was an error made which is quite common on this topic.

He indicated that the so-called "ten-year rule" prevents a spouse from receiving payments from the service member's retirement pay. That is very misleading.

The "ten-year rule" deals solely with the right of the former spouse to compel direct payment from the finance center Under the Uniformed Services Former Spouses Protection Act. A state divorce court may award a portion of the military retirement pay even if the marriage does not overlap with ten years creditable service.

This distinction is very important, and is generally misunderstood.

I urge you to publish a correction.

Lt. Col. Pierre A. Kleff
Killeen, Texas

We will, and thank you for your the clarification, along with those provided us by many other attorneys.

"Gray Area" solved (finally)

I am writing to inquire about a regulation which I feel is unfair and to see if my proposal has been made to correct this injustice.

I am a full time Army Reserve Technician with the 324th General Hospital in Perrine (Miami), Florida. Last September, I completed 32 years of service and was removed from this TPU and transferred to Control Group (Reinforcing) based on maximum years of service as an E-8. I do not dispute this provision which is part of AR 140-10.

The thing that bothers me is that I have devoted two-thirds of my life to the military. I have had my 20-year letter qualifying me for retirement since 1977. I live and work 10 miles from a major military base, and I have completely lost my right to shop in both the exchange and the commissary. In effect, soldiers in my category are involuntarily separated. We are treated the same as an unsatisfactory participant who is removed due to non-attendance or poor performance.

I enjoyed my limited privileges to shop and used the exchange and commissary on a regular basis before being transferred. In four years, I will again get unlimited shopping privileges. Why is the law designed to go from limited to none and then to full benefits? I am sure that statistics will show that many of us in this category do not live to take advantage of this entitlement. It is not like asking for money or medical benefits before we are legally entitled to them. How much would it cost the government to extend shopping privileges to us?

If nothing else, it would serve as a form of recognition to so many of us that have made the military our careers. In my particular case, I work where I have daily contact with Army training and operations [but] am no longer one of the family. This situation has added to my feeling of being an outsider.

MSgt. Alan R. Feinberg
Perrine, FL

Good news! MSgt. Feinberg's is only one of a huge collection of similar mail we've received over the past few months dealing with "gray area" loss of privileges. In short, the problem has been solved.

Look for the complete details of the Congressional and Department of Defense actions elsewhere in this issue.

Mud soldiers!

Spec. Eric C. Warren (center), team captain for the 63rd ARCOM's entry into the Ninth Annual Volkslauf hosted by Marine Corps Air Station-Tustin, Calif., gets an assist from an unidentified Marine as the competitors make their way across the Rambo Death Ditch. In German, "volkslauf" mean "people's run". Some people; some run. We'd suggest the tenth annual version be renamed the Mud Bowl.

(Photo by SSgt. James D. McGehee, 63rd ARCOM)

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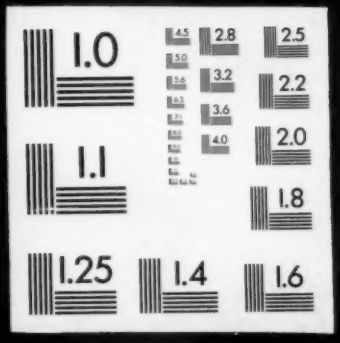
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